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THE GRAND MUSICAL FESTIVAL IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

MUSIC.

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

HEREFORD, Friday.

The 125th Festival of the Three Choirs of Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester, will be completed this morning by the performance of Handel's "Messiah;" and the week's enjoyment will be terminated by an event which, although not immediately connected with the musical gathering, is a very appropriate and graceful finale, namely, the presentation of medals, awarded by the Royal Commissioners to the exhibitors of the county of Hereford and the officers of the Hereford Local Committee, at the Shire Hall, this afternoon.

The week's selection of music reflects credit on the taste of the conductor, Mr. Townshend Smith. The executants, vocal and instrumental, although limited in number, were, on the whole, judiciously chosen; but, if the truth be told, it cannot be stated that the performances have exhibited that amount of precision and perfection which the advanced state of musical knowledge exacts. Upon this subject, however, we shall have more to say hereafter. In the meantime it is scarcely necessary to repeat the arguments brought forward on former occasions, to prove that if progress be not made in the Triennial Festival, they must expire. The fact is patent to everybody of the slightest discernment.

There have been four morning performances at the Cathedral, and three evening concerts at the Shire Hall. The general rehearsal took place on Monday morning and evening. The festival was opened on Tuesday, as usual, with Divine service, in the Cathedral. The orchestra and congregation were placed in the noble nave, a temporary screen of canvass separating the former from the choir. The orchestra was under the western arch of the tower; the organ, being under the low roof of the aisle, was invisible—the player, Mr. Annot, of Gloucester, obtaining his view of the conductor in a mirror. The leader of the band is Mr. H. Blagrove: amongst the instrumentalists were Cooper, Dando, Willy, Watkins, A. Mellon, J. Loder, Cousins, Patey, Seymour, Hill, Trust, Weslake, R. Blagrove, Lucas, Hutton, W. L. Phillips, Calkin, Howell, Flower, Severn, Pratten, E. Card, Nicholson, Williams, Baumann, Godfrey, C. and T. Harper, Irwin, Jarrett, Rae, the Smithies, Healy, Andre, Chipp, &c. The mayor and municipal authorities entered in state at eleven o'clock, and shortly afterwards the Lord Bishop, the Dean, with the Rev. Lord Saye and Sele, the Ven. Archdeacon L. Freer, B.D., the Archdeacon of Salop, the Dean of St. Asaph, the Canons, Rev. Messrs. Morgan, Huntingford, Musgrave, the Proctor, the Rev. W. E. Evans, the Prebendaries, Vicars, and minor Canons entered the nave in procession.

There are many visitors to the Triennial Festivals who regard the first morning's impressions at the cathedral service as the deepest and most earnest of the entire meeting. The time, the place, and the associations are eminently calculated to give effect to the sublimely devotional strains selected for the service; and on this occasion the sensations were not less thrilling. The glorious flood of sunlight, thrown on the nave, with its massive pillars and its semicircular arches, and illuminating the lofty groined roof, with its quaint architectural devices in blue, white, and gold, warmed every heart during the singing of the Old Hundredth psalm, ascribed to Martin Luther, and prepared the mind for the impressive service. The Rev. J. Goss intoned the liturgy; the Rev. Canon Huntingford read the first lesson, and the Ven. Archdeacon Freer the second. The Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Saye and Sele, D.C.L., preached an excellent sermon, his text being the first verse of the fourth chapter of St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians, "Therefore, seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not." The musical gleanings were the beautiful pieces, responses, and chant by Tallis; Mr. Townshend Smith's chant for the Psalms; Handel's "Te Deum" (D-ttingen) and "Gloria Patri;" P. Humphrey's "Jubilate;" Mr. Townshend Smith's anthem, "Behold, God is mighty," after the Third Collect; Mendelssohn's fine psalm 95, "O come let us worship," before the sermon; and Dr. Croft's chorus, "Cry aloud and shout," at the conclusion. Mrs. Endersohn, Miss Williams, Messrs. Hobbs, H. Barnby, and Phillips, sang the solos in the "Te Deum" artistically; and Messrs. T. Harper and Irwin executed the trumpet passages admirably. The new anthem of the conductor is nicely scored, and if not marked with individuality, contains some musicianlike writing. The quartet sung by Mrs. Endersohn, Miss Williams, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Phillips, is well voiced; the chorale had also some good points, especially in the instrumentation. Owing to the non-arrival of Mr. Loeckey, who did not reach Hereford until Tuesday night, owing to a severe cold, Mr. Sims Reeves sang at sight very cleverly the tenor solo in Mr. Smith's anthem and in Mendelssohn's Psalm. The service was over about half past two o'clock, and the ladies then held the plates at the doors for the collection, which amounted to £151 1s. 2d., besides two donations afterwards of £10 each. In 1849 the amount was £237. It is anticipated that this morning's collection will, however, bring up the amount for the charity to about the same as at the last meeting. As regards the general receipts it is useless to trouble you with the daily items until the festival is over; but the stewards, I fear, will have to make up a large deficiency. The weather, which began so auspiciously on Monday and Tuesday, changed on Wednesday, and this variability always affects the festivals.

Of the general execution of Haydn's "Creation," Spohr's cantata, "God thou art great," Beethoven's Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus and Benedictus, from his first Mass in C; and of Mr. Sims Reeves' energetic singing of Handel's "Sound an alarm," (re-demanded by the Bishop of Hereford) from "Judas Maccabeus," being Wednesday's programme; and of the interpretation of Mendelssohn's oratorio, "Paul," introduced for the first time at Hereford; and of Spohr's "Last Judgment," forming the long programme of Thursday, it will be unnecessary to write at any length. The characteristics of these cathedral readings are well known, and the principal singers, of course, suffer more or less from the unsteadiness of the directing *bâton*. The pieces most familiar to the executants go of themselves, either by tradition or imitation; in the unfamiliar and intricate parts it is either rugged or straggling, and perhaps a *sauve qui peut*. Mr. Townshend Smith, who, it must be mentioned to his honour, seems full of artistic aspirations for the success of these meetings, and who has taken especial pains in the selection of classic materials, must not be blamed for the shortcomings. He has followed in the wake of his predecessors in taking a post for which a life's experience, and a daily use of the *bâton* are the essential requirements. It must not be less borne in mind, that it has not been the invariable custom at these meetings for the local organist to be the conductor.

At the evening concerts in the Shire Hall, Mozart's "Zauberflöte" and Weber's "Oberon" were the overtures in the first programme of Tuesday; Beethoven's Symphony in D, and Mr. A. Mellon's clever overture in A minor, were in Wednesday's scheme; and at the third and last concert, Mendelssohn's Symphony in A, and Rossini's "William Tell" were the orchestral displays. The full pieces have been the splendid March Chorus and Quartet from Weber's "Euryanthe," the charming *finale* from Sir H. R. Bishop's opera of the "Maniac," "Home! there's a storm;" the picturesque "Chorus, March, and Dance at Arms," from Spohr's "Jessen;" Wilbye's quaint madrigal, "Lady Oriana," Ma faren's clever madrigal, "Maidens, never go a wooing," from "Charles II.," and the National Anthem of Dr. John Bull—who was organist, by the way, of Hereford Cathedral. Mr. Townshend Smith must be complimented on his good intentions, in such selections as the above, evincing as they do, that he does not look upon music in an exclusive and narrow-minded view. Another highly interesting feature in the concerts has been the singing of the Glee and Madrigal Union.—Mrs. Endersohn, Miss Williams, Mr. Loeckey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Phillips. The Herefordshire amateurs were certainly not up to the mark in appreciating the exquisite ensemble in these noble specimens of the English glee school. Of the individual displays of the chief artists, the London amateurs will require no information in detail, singing as they did their favourite *morceaux*, rendered so familiar to popular ears by the past season. To notice the magnificent voice of Mme. Clara Novello, would be to repeat the eulogies bestowed on her during the Birmingham meetings. She attacks all schools, opera or oratorio, scene or song, ballad or bravura, and her voice will tell its powerful tale, whenever she is heard. For nice taste and delicate feeling Mrs. Endersohn, especially in two songs by Sterndale Bennett, claims observation. Miss Williams has sustained singly the contralto honours with marked success. She always wins an *encore* in Land's ballad, "The slave girl's love," the popularity of which, without meaning any disrespect to the clever composer and charming singer, must be ascribed, not only to her very deep notes, but also to the run just now making on "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Mr. Sims Reeves has taken higher ground at the last two festivals than on any previous occasion. He is acquiring the true singer's art—delicacy, sentiment, and refinement. Loeckey has been *hors de combat*, owing to his severe cold;

and Herr Formès, after his Birmingham labours, has been roughing it here, prior to his Norwich labours.

The Dean and Chapter have politely thrown open the portals of the cathedral, during the afternoons of the festival, to enable visitors to view the memorials to the late Dean, the Very Rev. John Mereweather, D.D.; and to Joseph Bailey, Esq., the M.P. for the county for nine years. The Dean's memorial occupies five windows in the east end of Lady Chapel. The active part he took in the restoration of the cathedral is well known. He is buried at the north-west angle of the Lady Chapel. The Bailey memorial is on the altar screen, erected at the eastern end of the choir, across the great Norman arch. The central panel is not yet placed. These memorials, by Mr. J. Cottingham, have attracted much attention.

The stewards of the Festival, who undertake its financial responsibilities, are the Bishop, Lord Rodney, Archdeacon Freer, D.P. Pepice, Esq.; Pantou Corbett, Esq.; W. M. Kyrie, Esq.; the Rev. W. T. N. Peneyre, M.A., and T. Evans, Esq. The attendance of the local nobility and gentry has not been so great as in former years. The railroad from Ross and Gloucester will be opened next autumn, and by the time of the next festival, in 1855, there will be three railroads to Hereford: an important difference will then be made in the receipts. Many persons, however, will regret the loss of the ride over the Malvern Hill, through smiling orchards and rich hop grounds. Some visitors have come from London and Dublin, amongst whom is Fitzwilliam Hume, Esq., M.P. for Wicklow, with his family.

The melancholy intelligence of the death of the Duke of Wellington reached here early on Wednesday, but it was only on the arrival of the London papers in the afternoon the inhabitants could be persuaded that the news was too true. A more universal expression of sorrow was never witnessed. The cathedral bell tolled after the morning's performance, and yesterday (Thursday), prior to the commencement of the oratorio "Paul," the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Townshend Smith, played the Dead March in "Saul," the entire company standing up, evidently deeply moved.

In the list of general company at the Festival just handed to us are the names of Lord and Lady Ruthven, Lord W. Graham, Lord Hereford, Lord Bateman, Sir Robert and Lady Price, Sir G. and Lady Lambert, Lady Emily Foley; King King, Esq., M.P.; Captain Hanbury, M.P.; Sir Walters Cornwell, M.P.; T. Booker, Esq., M.P.; Quintin Dick, Esq., M.P.; E. Fitzwilliam Hume, Esq., M.P.; and Miss Hume, H. Arkwright, Esq.; Lady and Miss Cornwall; Rev. Archer Clive; D. Bertha, Esq., &c. The only absentees amongst the stewards were P. Corbett, Esq., and W. A. Kyrie, Esq.

The full attendance yesterday, and the expected influx for the "Messiah," it is anticipated, will produce an average amount of receipts for the meeting.

The Bishop of Hereford has just issued an address on the subject of the restoration of the Cathedral. It is stated that more than £20,000 has been already expended, this sum having been chiefly contributed within the county. The Bishop adds that about £10,000 more would go far towards the completion of the work, and about £5000 might effect the reparation of the choir, so that it could be used for divine service. An appeal is therefore made, in which every archaeologist in the country must feel deeply interested, as well as every churchman, fully to restore one of the oldest of European sacred edifices. Divine service since March the 1st, 1850, has been performed in the nave, and not in its proper place in the choir.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BIRMINGHAM, Monday.

The general committee met on Saturday at the Town-hall; Lord Leigh, the President, in the chair. Votes of thanks were specially passed to the noble Lord and Lady Leigh, to the Vice-Presidents, to J. F. Ledlam, Esq., the chairman of the committee; to J. O. Mason, Esq., the orchestral steward; to Michael Costa, Esq., the conductor; to Mr. Stimpson, the organist and chorus master to the Sacred Harmonic Society of Exeter-hall; and to the various officials connected with the recent meeting. The ball at the Town-hall on Friday night produced only £277 12s., but the total receipts have been the large sum of £11,392 12s. 3d. In 1849 the amount was £10,333. The largest sum was in 1834, when £13,527 was received. In 1837 it was £11,900, in 1840 £11,618, and in 1846 £11,638. It is confidently anticipated that the balance for the General Hospital will be one of the most favourable net receipts ever known, as the expenditure has been kept under, by judicious management at the festival. The largest take of the morning performances was that of the "Messiah," £2762 4s. 11d.; and yet upwards of 200 persons were turned from the doors. On the "Elijah" day the sum was £2304 0s. 7d. The "Creation," "Christus," &c., realised £1649 0s. 5d.; and "Samson" £1725 18s. 4d. For the three concerts the sums were—£439 7s. the first, £869 the second, and £1001 9s. the last. The sale of books insured £364. Amongst the donations were—Lord Leigh, 100 guineas; T. Cornhill, Esq., £100; Earl Aylesford, £100; Madame Viardot and Mdlle. Zerr, £50 each; Mr. Sims Reeves and Herr Formès, 50 guineas each; Miss Williams, 10 guineas; Miss Dolby and Mr. Loeckey, five guineas each; the Sacred Harmonic Society, besides the loan of music, £10.

A few words on the performance of "Samson" will complete our record of this truly memorable meeting. The playing of the overture and the Dead March (quite as fine as that of *Saul*), the clever singing of the florid tenor, and "Why does the God of Israel sleep," by Sims Reeves, the pathetic rendering of the "Return, O God of Stars," by Miss Dolby; the spirited delivery of the "Honour and Arms," by Formès; the grand interpretation of the lament "Ye Sons of Israel," by Viardot (re-demanded); the brilliant and powerful vocalisation of Clara Novello in "Let the bright Seraphim," with T. Harper's superb trumpet obligato; and the wondrous precision and fire with which the choruses performed their functions, rendered this execution of "Samson" not less interesting, and certainly quite as triumphant as that of "Elijah" and the "Messiah." At the close of the oratorio, after the National Anthem had been sung, the burst of cheering from all sides, for Costa, lasted for some minutes, and never was honour more richly merited. He has been the Atlas of the festival, and his artistic and moral influence was never more triumphantly developed.

The Theatre Royal was opened on Saturday night by Mr. Simpson, who had provided a *finale* of the musical week, by the engagement of Tamberlik and Mdlle. Castellani for the last act of "Lucia," and Grisi, Mdlle. Bertrandi, Mario, F. Lablache, Susini, Polonini, and Galvani, for "Lucrezia Borgia." Mr. Frank Mori was the conductor. The house was quite filled.

Mdlle. Castellani leaves for Lisbon at the end of the week. Tamberlik, Polonini, and Mario shortly depart for St. Petersburg; for which capital Lablache is on his way *via* Stettin. Mdlle. Clara Novello will start for Madrid after the Hereford Festival.

CREMORNE GARDENS.

The Monster Balloon, the largest that ever ascended in this country, made its first trip on Monday last, under the pilotage of Monsieur Poitevin, from the above Gardens. About thirty persons were in the car and on the hoop, with Madame Poitevin and her parachute attached, as well as a large quantity of ballast. The ascent and descent of Madame was admirably arranged, and thus effected: When the balloon had reached an altitude of about half a mile, the aeronaut suddenly let off a large quantity of g-s, which causing the balloon rapidly to lower, the ribs of the parachute suddenly spread and descended most gracefully, without the least oscillation, and safely landed the fair voyager on Clapham-common. Mdlle. Poitevin was hailed with rapturous plaudits on her safe return to Cremorne; as was the *omnibus* party, some two hours after, on their return from Kent. The Gardens were crowded with company.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—This great national establishment is in future to be carried on by an association of united capitalists; in its foremost ranks are men distinguished for their patronage of the arts and knowledge of business. The trustees are the Duke of Leinster, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Mr. Frederick Mildred, of the great banking firm of Masterman and Co., and Benjamin Oliveira, M.P. The subscribed capital is £200,000, with an available ready money capital of £75,000. The liability of the shareholders is limited to the amount of their shares. No person (says the *Chronicle*) has yet been officially named as the future director; but if great experience, indefatigable attention to business, courteous manners, and general popularity with the frequenters of the opera, constitute valid claims to the office, we imagine we shall not be far wrong in anticipating that the choice of the committee will fall on Mr. Lumley.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday the burletta of "Midas" was revived. Mr. Farren himself performed *Midas*, and with precision and point little inferior to his best days. Mr. Compton was a capital *Pan*; and Miss Gordon, as *Apollo*, justified the good opinion we have already expressed of her, both as an actress and a vocalist.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Prince President has set out on his long tour to the South. His more immediate friends had vainly endeavoured to persuade him, previous to his departure, to lessen the great extent of the circuit which he purposes making through the southern provinces, as they are apprehensive, in the present state of his health, which is by no means strong, of injurious effects resulting from the great fatigue and exposure which he must necessarily undergo in so protracted an excursion. He persisted, however, in adhering to the programme of the route as originally laid down, and as given by us last week. On Tuesday, the day of his departure, he left St. Cloud at a quarter past twelve in an open caleche and four, with postillions. He was in the uniform of a general officer, with the grand cordon of the Legion of Honour and two or three other decorations. His uncle, Marshal Jerome Bonaparte, was by his side, and opposite them sat two aides-de-camp. The carriage was escorted by two bodies of officers—one, of cuirassiers, preceding it; and the other, of carabiniers, following it. Each party had the colonel at its head, and all the officers rode with drawn swords. A squadron of carabiniers followed at some distance. Louis Napoleon passed down the Champs Elyées, crossed the Place de la Concorde, and then proceeded along the quays to the terminus of the Orleans Railway. There were not many persons collected on his passage, and the cry generally raised was that of "Vive Napoleon!" The outside of the terminus was fitted up with masts, ornamented with tricoloured flags, and bearing escutcheons with an eagle on each. The interior was also ornamented in an analogous manner. About half-past twelve, General Magnan, General de Lawoestine, Colonel Isnard, head of the staff; Count de Nieuwerkerke; the Ministers, in full official costume; M. Baroche; a great number of Councillors of State, and of Senators; the Prefect of Police; and a vast crowd of functionaries of every grade, arrived. A great crowd was assembled outside, and the windows in the neighbourhood were filled with well-dressed persons. At one o'clock the drums of the gendarmerie mobile, on duty at the terminus, beat a salute, and in a few minutes after the Prince drove up, and was most warmly received with cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" and, occasionally, "Vive Napoleon!" The generals and great functionaries present then pressed forward to receive the head of the State, and immediately after the Prince proceeded to take his place in the train. Sixteen persons were admitted into the railway carriages prepared for the departure, and amongst them were M. Fortoul, the Minister of Public Instruction, and M. de Maupas, the Minister of Police, who are to be in attendance on Louis Napoleon during the first part of his journey. There were also General de St. Arnaud, Minister of War, who is to accompany him throughout his tour; General Roguet, General de Goyon, Colonel Fleury, Colonel Edgard Ney, M. Mocquart, his *chef du cabinet*, and Dr. Corneau. The train was put in motion at 20 minutes past one for Bourges. The Prince's household left by a train at eleven o'clock, and at the same time were despatched twelve new carriages, intended for the President's use during his tour.

The arrival of the President at Bourges took place at six o'clock in the evening. He was received at the station by the Prefect of the Cher, the Mayor of the city, and all the municipal and departmental authorities, both civil and military. The President made his entry into the town on horseback, accompanied by the Ministers of Police, and was attended by a numerous and brilliant staff. The streets were lined with National Guards, soldiers of the line, and artillery, and the houses were decorated with flags, and brilliantly illuminated; the balconies being crowded with elegantly-dressed ladies, who, waving handkerchiefs, joined in the general acclamations which saluted Louis Napoleon as he rode along. The Hôtel Dieu and the Convent of the Sisters of Charity were especially noticed for their elegant decorations. Over the gate of the latter was placed the inscription, "To Louis Napoleon, the Saviour of Family, the Protector of Religion." The Prince acknowledged with marked affability the salutations of the nuns, who were drawn up in front of their establishment. The *cortège* arrived, amidst the pealing of bells and the enthusiastic greetings of the multitude, at half-past six, at the cathedral, when the Cardinal Archbishop of the diocese, the Vicars-General, the Chapter of the Cathedral, and a vast throng of clergy, dressed in full canonicals, were waiting to receive the President. The Archbishop descended the steps before the grand entrance to meet Louis Napoleon, and having presented him with incense and holy water, gave expression to the sentiments of devotedness, gratitude, and profound respect which the clergy and the people entertain for the Prince. Louis Napoleon, in reply, briefly expressed the gratification which his reception afforded him, adding that he was convinced that the wishes addressed to Heaven by the clergy, on his behalf, at the commencement of his journey, must bring him good fortune. The President then entered the church, and advanced between a double row of clergy to the choir, where he knelt while the *Domine Salvum fac* was chanted, at the close of which he left the cathedral and proceeded to the Archbishop's palace, where he passed the night. At the dinner which took place at half-past seven o'clock, all the officials and people of local distinction, including clergy, military, and laity were present, and during the night the town was the scene of the most festive enjoyments—balls, theatrical exhibitions, &c.

The only Minister who is to accompany the President of the Republic throughout the whole of his journey is General de St. Arnaud, the army being to occupy a prominent part in the pageant in each town. The other Ministers will be in attendance on Louis Napoleon in the following manner:—M. de Maupas, Minister of Police, as far as Moulins; M. de Persigny, Minister of the Interior, from Moulins to Lyons; M. Ducos, Minister of Marine, at Toulon and Rochefort; and M. Magne, Minister of Public Works, will meet the Prince at Angoulême, to inaugurate the railway with him. M. Fould, Minister of State, is not to leave Paris.

The organisation of the Ministry of State has been modified, in order to reduce the expenses of that department of the public service.

The architects of the Crystal Palace in the Champs-Elyées on Monday took possession of the ground destined for that building, and commenced marking it out for the extensive works which are to be constructed.

The sides of the great sewer, which is being constructed in the Rue de Rivoli, fell in on Tuesday evening on seven men, five of whom were got out more or less injured, but two are lost.

The *Echo de l'Aveyron* has received a second warning for publishing an article on the *fête* of the 15th August, which was considered to contain malevolent and insulting insinuations against the Government.

The Minister of General Police has issued a decree expelling M. Chavoix, a member of the late Legislative Assembly, from the French territory. M. Chavoix had been previously expelled from the French territory by the decree of the 9th of January last, but was subsequently permitted to remain in France.

The linen merchants of Lille addressed a letter to the Chamber of Commerce of that town, praying its influence with the Government to obtain the continuance of the treaty with Belgium of 1845, the interruption of relations with that country having proved of serious injury to the memorialists.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree opening an extraordinary credit of 1,360,990*fr.*, for completing the line of electric telegraphic communication throughout France.

An order has been issued by the Mayor of Châtellerault, forbidding all keepers of coffee-houses and wine-shops from admitting youths under sixteen years of age, except they are accompanied by a relative.

SICILY.—THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT ETNA.

Sicily, which, some two years back, was so frequently mentioned in our columns as the theatre of political outbreaks, has again, by occurrences out of the ordinary course of events, begun to afford materials for the journalist. On the present occasion, however, the convulsions to be noticed are not political, but physical. The celebrated volcano, Mount Etna, which has now so long kept its internal fires dormant, has, within the last three or four weeks, resumed a most fearful activity, which at the present moment threatens desolation to one of the most fertile and beautiful districts on the globe. We have represented the scene presented by the mountain in the Illustrations, at page 212 of the present Number.

The latest accounts from the spot state that, on the 29th of August, the broad stream of lava which issued from the mountain had arrived within a very short distance of the village of Zaffarana, and that the strong heat which it emitted was most sensibly experienced in the village. The manner in which the fearful torrent advanced was most singular. It moved on slowly, without interruption; the most advanced wave shot up at the slightest obstacle it met in its path, dispersing rivulets to all sides; the mass circled round them, grew smooth again,

and proceeded. A continued crashing and bursting was to be heard, as of glass in the fire, no other sound, and in the meanwhile immense damage was done. Every now and then a stoppage denoted that the stream had encountered a large obstacle, or water.

By day all this great mass had a reddish grey aspect, with something glassy and polished. It is impossible to describe its appearance by night. The stream of living fire, the clouds of cinders and sulphurous vapours, baffled description. It was horribly sublime. The river of lava, as the eruption proceeds, has become a species of coating above the surrounding lands, and as it grows cold, fresh sheets of fire spread over it.

The misery and losses occasioned to the unhappy region are incalculable; for the southern bed, through which streams of lava are now pouring, is the most fertile and best cultivated portion of the whole island. Vineyards, every species of fruit and vegetable production, houses, farms, &c., are all destroyed by the eruption. It is more than 500 years since lava flowed from Mount Etna in the direction of Zaffarana. Much damage is also occasioned by the cinders and burning sand poured forth from the crater, beneath the Monti di Cassone and the Valle del Re. The volcano continued, at the latest accounts, throwing up with loud detonations, and on the night of the 29th of August it sent forth such flames of fire as to illuminate the whole country distinctly as far as Catania (distant 14 miles), like a gigantic lighthouse.

UNITED STATES.

Accounts from New York to the 4th inst. would lead to the inference that the Fisheries dispute was in effect completely settled. Congress has been adjourned, much business that remained to be dispatched having been postponed. On the 30th ult., the day previous to adjournment, the Senate adopted a resolution providing for the purchase and fitting up of vessels intended for the exploration of Behring's Straits, the China Seas, Straits of Gaper, and Java Sea.

The "Order of the Lone Star," whose general purpose and object is declared to be "to extend the area of freedom," and whose immediate aim at present appears to be "to annex Cuba" to the United States, has openly commenced operations in New York. On Saturday, the 28th ult., a meeting of the "Empire division, No. 1" of the order was held in that city, when Dr. John V. Wren, special agent of the order, from New Orleans, was presented with a magnificent diamond star, the emblem of the order, and with some gold ornamental appendages. Fervent speeches were made on the occasion, and "Spanish tyranny in Cuba" much talked of. It is hinted that a revolution may be expected in Cuba early in November, the latest accounts from which island (dated the 29th ult.) state that the prisons there are all full, and that fresh arrests were made every day. In the capital (Havannah) the Government authorities had succeeded in seizing the press of a revolutionary journal, which was printed in secret, and was called the *Voice of the People*. They had also arrested the publishers and sent them to prison; and, acting upon the information of a French creole, they despatched a force of 50 cavalry to a *café*, and surprised a party of 140 persons engaged in making ammunition and ball-cartridge.

A new treaty of commerce and navigation has been made with the Netherlands, giving to Dutch and American vessels reciprocally privileges similar to those enjoyed by the national vessels of either country.

From the Mississippi Valley and "the Far West" generally, we learn that the cholera was raging in different localities there, especially in Missouri and in Buffalo.

At Cincinnati much damage had been occasioned by a fire. Very destructive storms had occurred in the south. The lower part of Mobile was entirely submerged, buildings were blown down, vessels injured, and a great number of lives lost. The damage in that vicinity was estimated at 1,000,000 dols. The same storm had destroyed much property in various parts of the Union; at Memphis much corn and cotton were washed away. At Augusta, state of Georgia, the loss was estimated at 1,000,000 dollars. The lighthouses on Chandelier Island had been washed away, and the water had made a canal three quarters of a mile wide through Ship Island.

At Savannah the destruction of life and property had been very great; both bridges across the Savannah river had been carried away, together with all the canal bridges. There were four feet of water in the streets, and the mails had to be taken to the Post-office in canal boats.

From San Francisco we have advices to the 31st July. The news is not very important. The sheriff of Contra Costa county had been shot at and mortally wounded, while in the discharge of his duty, by a man named Hardy, who had leased a piece of land and refused to give up possession to the owner when the lease had expired. The outrage had caused great excitement at the place where it occurred, and it was thought lynching would be resorted to.

2200 sheep had arrived at Woolskill Ranch, twenty miles from the Sacramento, from the Salt Lake; they were upwards of twelve months on their journey, having left St. Joseph's in June, 1851.

The crops of grain and grass had sustained great injury from fire in the valley of the Upper Sacramento.

The gold miners were in general prevented working by the want of water.

From Mexico the news is deplorable. The insurrectionary movements were spreading to such an alarming extent, that it was anticipated an extra session of Congress would be called to devise means for their suppression, though what the said Congress can do, with an empty treasury, and no practical means at command, is more than can be divined.

THE RIVER PLATE.

By the advices, dated August 3rd, which have been received by the usual monthly mail steam communication from Buenos Ayres, we are informed of the demise of the Provisional Government which had been established by General Urquiza, on the banishment of Rosas, and which was to have conducted the administration until the congress of the Confederated Provinces that was to meet on the 31st of August had definitively organized a permanent form of Government. The cessation of the Provisional Government had been brought about by the resignation of its chief, Doctor Don Vicente Lopez. The retirement of Lopez, whose well-known ability, honesty of purpose, and enlightened views were universally recognised, was greatly regretted by the public. In his letter to Urquiza, upon retiring from office, Dr. Lopez says:—

Wills and interests being ill-harmonised, and from the want of unity in the general views to arrive at those results whereby I hoped to place the rule of public interest in precedence to all individual aspirations, my situation has become as unpleasant as impotent. My authority is always called in question; and in such circumstances I am bound to hasten to acquit my Excellency that you may deign to consider the matter as a definite resolution which I have adopted, or separating myself from public life, returning to your Excellency the authority which you conferred upon me, assumed in the name of the Treaty of San Nicolas (made on the expulsion of Rosas).

Urquiza replies by accepting the resignation with regret, and assuming the temporary direction of the province, assisted by a council, but only for the time necessary to reconstitute authority.

We are also apprised by these advices of the continuance in the provinces of San Juan and Santa Fe of the revolutionary movement against the Government appointments which had been made there by General Urquiza, in accordance with the dictatorial authority assumed by him as Provisional Director of the Confederated Provinces. The Provisional Government of San Juan had addressed a manifesto to the people, in which it announced the Governor, General Benavides, as a mere creature and tool of Rosas; and had, on the 6th of July, issued a formal fiat of deposition against him, charging him with every possible and imaginable crime, and prohibiting him from returning to the territory of the province for the term of one year, and even then not without a special and express sanction and permission of the authorities. General Urquiza's Minister had replied to these proceedings in an energetic letter, in which he says:—"The Provisional Director cannot tolerate acts of this nature in the Confederation. They would undermine the basis of public order, and place its very existence in danger." Thus the matter rests for the present.

The financial difficulties of the Government were so great, that, on the 21st of July, it was obliged to have recourse to the very questionable proceeding of exacting from the Bank a forced loan of 10,000,000 dollars. The affair had created much dissatisfaction in commercial circles.

The new Council of State of Buenos Ayres was installed on the 28th of July. Don Nicolas Anchorena being appointed president, Don Salvador Maria Cornil vice president, and Dr. Edwards Lahitte secretary. These appointments are regarded as a proof of Urquiza's honest and patriotic views and intentions in assuming the supreme government for the present. Urquiza had also appointed Dr. Pena Minister Plenipotentiary to Brazil, for the purpose of concluding a definitive treaty of peace, but having expressed a desire that the negotiations should be continued in Buenos Ayres, the Brazilian Cabinet consented, and Senor Limpo de Abreu was shortly to proceed thither.

The long-agitated question of the independence of Paraguay has at last been decided. It was to be recognised on the 17th of July by the representative of the Confederation, and will be ratified in due course by the Provisional Director. The navigation of the Parana being conceded to Paraguay as an independent State, England may claim the same, on the principle of the "most favoured nation," consigned in the treaty with the Argentine Republic.

At Rio de Janeiro, it was stated that the Argentine Confederacy having acknowledged the independence of Paraguay, to obtain this object the whole of the territory claimed by Corrientes had been ceded to the Confederacy. It was believed in Rio that the Anglo-French mission would be productive of no result. Mr. Schenk, the American Minister, who preceded the British and French envoys, Sir C. Hotham and the Chevalier St. George, was told by General Urquiza that the question of the navigation of the rivers must first be settled with the Riverains, and even that object could not be effected until after the meeting of the Federal Congress. In all probability a similar answer would be given to the representatives of the two European Powers.

The Governors of the provinces of Salta and Jugay, and the Minister Plenipotentiary of Cordoba had adhered to the compact of San Nicolas (mentioned above). A note had been received from the Government of Tucuman, announcing the deposition of General Gutierrez, and the substitution of Don Manuel A. Espinosa, as governor and captain-general of the province. The Chamber of Representatives had expressed an unqualified approbation of the compact of San Nicolas, and passed a vote of thanks to General Urquiza for the invaluable services he has rendered the Republic.

The Oriental Republic have awarded a medal to General Urquiza, as an acknowledgment of his public services.

THE NORTH AMERICAN FISHERIES.

On this subject a memorial to Sir J. G. Le Marchand, the Governor of Nova Scotia, accompanied by a petition to her Majesty, has emanated from a very large and influential meeting, held at Halifax, in that colony, on the 2d inst., and the two documents have been forwarded to the Imperial Government in London. Both the memorial and the petition enter fully into the history of the present Fisheries dispute with the United States, and of the treaties referring to the subject; and then insist upon the necessity, for the interest of the British North American Colonies, of maintaining unimpaired the restrictions which are laid by existing treaties upon attempts of United States fishermen to exercise their avocations within the prohibited British colonial waters. They reject as valueless the offer of the American Government to grant to British fishermen the same liberty to fish on the United States coasts as they (the Americans) demand for themselves in British colonial waters. They conclude thus:—

"Your memorialists deprecate all negotiation—all compromise on the subject. The Americans will not—probably they cannot—grant an equivalent for the privileges they seek: and the only security for the colonies is the entire abandonment of the present negotiations. Your memorialists most earnestly entreat your Majesty that the existing fishery restrictions may be preserved in their letter, and that your Majesty's power may be put forth to prevent their violation. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c."

A series of resolutions, conceived in the same uncompromising spirit as the petition to the Queen, and agreed to at the same meeting, are appended. The two last of these resolutions indicate forcibly the tone of public feeling in the colonies on this subject. They are as follows:—

"Resolved—That the cession of the Aroostook territory, and the free navigation of the St. John, the right of registry in colonial ports, and the free admission of the productions of the United States into British America, at revenue duties only, have been followed by no corresponding relaxation of the commercial system of the United States which would justify a further sacrifice of colonial interests.

"Resolved—That while more than one-half of the sea coast of the Republic bounds slave states, whose labouring population cannot be trusted upon the sea—the coasts of British America include a frontage upon the ocean greater than the whole Atlantic seaboard of the United States. The richest fisheries in the world surround these coasts. Coal—which the Americans must bring with them, should they provoke hostilities—abounds at the most convenient points. Two millions of adventurous and industrious people already inhabit these provinces; and the citizens of Halifax would indeed deplore the sacrifice of their interests by any concession to a power which ever second the efforts of astute diplomacy by appeals to the passions of their people—the full force of which has been twice broken on British America within the memory of this generation; and, in a just cause, with the aid of the mother country, could be broken again."

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA VIA THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

The project which has been so long and anxiously desired, of traversing the vast Pacific Ocean by means of steam, is on the eve of being accomplished. The Australasian Pacific Mail Steam Company, which has been recently incorporated by Royal charter, has entered into arrangements and formed contracts for the immediate construction of five first-class iron screw steam ships which are to ply across the Pacific from the Isthmus of Panama to Sidney in New South Wales, calling at the Islands of Tahiti and New Zealand as intermediate stations. The vessels are to be of 1560 tons burden and 300-horse power; and as they are to be constructed of iron, it was considered more conducive to harmony of action for the ship and engines to be included in one contract; accordingly, the builders of the ship will also manufacture the machinery. Mr. R. Napier, of Glasgow, is building two of the ships; Messrs. Caird and Company, of Greenock, one; Messrs. Reid and Company, of Port Glasgow, one; and Messrs. Miller, Ravenhill and Company, of London, one. The first vessel is to be ready in nine months from the present date, and will be at once despatched to Sidney as a pioneer of the line, and thence to occupy the Pacific station to Panama. The highest rate of speed possible has been the only condition imposed on the contractors, and it is, therefore, expected that these vessels will provide for the most rapid and regular route to Australia. The communication each way is to be monthly, and the Australasian Company's steam-ships will run in correspondence with the direct West India mail steamers from Calcutta to Southampton. It is anticipated that Sidney will thus be reached in fifty to fifty-five days from Southampton.

POSTAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.—A very important alteration has been made by the Congress of the United States in the postage charges on newspapers and other publications. An act has been passed which declares that on and after the 13th of the present month of September, newspapers, periodicals, and all printed matter not exceeding three ounces in weight, may be sent by post to any part of the United States for one cent, or about a halfpenny; each additional ounce to be charged one cent. If the postage be paid in advance, quarterly or regularly, either at the office where the papers are mailed or at that where they are delivered, one-half of the above rates only to be charged; and the same in the case of newspapers not weighing more than one ounce and a half, when circulated in the State in which they are published. Packets of small newspapers published monthly or oftener, to be charged half a cent per ounce. All postages to be prepaid, or charged double. Books, bound or unbound, not weighing more than four pounds, to be charged one cent per ounce under 3000 miles; for greater distances, double that sum, provided they are prepaid; if not, the charge to be increased 50 per cent. A curious clause directs that "all printed matter chargeable by weight shall be weighed when dry." Permission is given by the new act to publishers of newspapers and periodicals to send to each other, free of postage, one copy of each publication; and also to send to each actual subscriber, enclosed in their publications, bills and receipts for the same, free of extra postage. These reductions and arrangements show an earnest desire on the part of the Legislature to afford every facility to the diffusion of information; but the enactments are wanting in uniformity and simplicity—points of immense importance to the public as well as to the post-office. The spirit evinced in the promulgation of this act will doubtless soon remedy any defects that may be found to exist when it comes into practical operation; and its exhibition at the present moment argues well for the progress of the movement now being made in this country towards a system of cheap and uniform international postage.

CALIFORNIAN GOLD.—Advices from California, to the 16th of July, state that one of the most splendid specimens of gold ever seen in San Francisco had been dug at Victoria, Calaveras county, by Mr. William Winton Darham. Its weight was somewhat over 26 lb., and, with the exception of a few specks of quartz, which could be removed with a knife, the lump was a solid mass of pure gold. This was found 60 feet below the surface, in a drift of nearly 30 feet from the main lode.

PATENT FUEL A FATAL CARGO.—From Monte Video, South America, we have this week the intelligence of the loss of the *Amidas*, of Liverpool, Captain William Morgan, loaded with patent fuel, for Coquimbo, burnt at sea in lat. 33.50 S., and long. 54 20 W., from spontaneous ignition of her cargo. The crew, twenty in number, escaped in the long boat and life boat, and were picked up by the packet *America*, from the Falkland Islands, and landed at Monte Video.

LAW AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

In the Insolvent Court, on Wednesday, Mr. Edgar George Papworth, the eminent artist, sought the protection of the Court, but was opposed by two creditors in person. The insolvent had been an unsuccessful competitor for the Peel monuments at T. mworth and Salford, and attributed his insolvency chiefly to the expenses incurred in preparing the models for competition. Mr. Commissioner Law adjourned the case till Nov. 6, for the production of some evidence. Bail was renewed.

AN UNFORTUNATE PLANTAGENET.—In the London Insolvent Court, on Monday, an insolvent, named George Henry de Strabolgie Neville Plantagenet Harrison, sought the benefit of the act passed for the relief of insolvent debtors. His description was very voluminous, comprising residences in almost every chief city in South America as well as North America and Europe; had been general of the armies of Yucatan and Peru, lieutenant-general of the Danish army and the army of the Germanic Confederation. Upon being examined, he said he was baptised as George Henry Harrison, but had adopted the names of De Strabolgie Neville Plantagenet as being the direct representative of those families. He had been called Prince Plantagenet Harrison in Germany, and had received the rank of marshal in Peru. He had received from 1847 about £1200 from friends and had won at play about £1300 in the same period. He received in the years 1844, 1845, and 1846 about £2000 as military pay.—Mr. Commissioner Law remarked, that the insolvency was attributed to the peaceful state of Europe (laughter).—After some opposition, Mr. Commissioner Law ordered the insolvent to be discharged after eight calendar months from the date of the vesting order.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.—Mr. Brougham, the nephew of Lord Brougham, has been appointed to act *pro tem.* as registrar in Mr. Commissioner Holford's Court. Mr. Brougham has for some years been registrar of the Liverpool District Court of Bankruptcy.

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL OF THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—Among the improvements effected by the Sutors in Chancery Relief Act (15th and 16th Victoria, c. 87), is one declaring that the Accountant of the Court of Chancery from the 28th of October next shall be paid a salary of £2700, in lieu of "brokerage" hitherto received by him in addition to the salary and allowance now made for books and stationery. The "brokerage" heretofore received by the Accountant-General is to be paid by him to the Sutors' Fee Fund.

BALLOONING.—THE ALLEGED CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—The question as to whether persons taking up with them in balloon ascents animals suspended from the car of the balloon infringe the law thereby or not, has been the subject of two conflicting legal decisions this week. In both cases the charge was brought by Mr. Thomas, on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, against M. and Madame Poitevin, the ascendants, and Mr. Simpson, the lessee of Cremorne Gardens, whence the ascents were made. The first case, in which the charge referred to the alleged cruelty having been inflicted on a heifer which had been attached to the balloon, was heard on Saturday last before the magistrates at Ilford Petty Sessions; viz., Messrs. Davis (chairman), G. Fry, O. Master, and McNaughten; the balloon having made its descent in the Ilford district. The defendants pleaded guilty, and were fined £5 each; Mr. Simpson giving an undertaking that such exhibitions, in future, should not take place.—In the second case, which referred to the infliction of the alleged cruelty upon a pony, the defendants pleaded "not guilty," the charge having been heard at the Westminster police-court. The proceedings were very voluminous and the evidence conflicting; and Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, took time to consider his judgment, as noticed in this paper last week. On Monday last he gave his decision; in which, whilst strongly condemning those exhibitions as discreditable, and cruelly exposing the animal suspended to risk of accident, he was nevertheless decidedly of opinion that the acts charged against the defendants did not come within the meaning of the act of Parliament, the words of which are:—"If any person shall cruelly beat, ill-treat, over-drive, or torture any animal," he shall be liable to certain penalties; and he therefore came to the conclusion that the charges against the defendants must be dismissed.

CHARGE OF FRAUD AGAINST A SOLICITOR.—At the Surrey Sessions, on Wednesday, before Thomas Fuckle, Esq., and a full bench of magistrates, Thomas Russell, formerly a solicitor at Hammer-smith, but now a prisoner confined in the debtors' side of Horsemanonger-lane Gaol, was indicted for obtaining money under false pretences from Mr. Bernard, the proprietor of a stand at Kpsom Races, which broke down at the Spring Meeting, 1850, and severely injured Mr. Page, a publican at Northfleet; he (the prisoner) having pretended that he was solicitor to the last-named party, and was instructed by him to settle the matter without further legal proceedings. After hearing evidence in support of the charge the jury returned a verdict of guilty. The sentence of the Court was that he be sentenced to six months' hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction. The prisoner, it may be recollected, brought the *qui tam* actions, some years ago, against Lord George Bentinck and other noblemen, which did not gain him a very enviable notoriety.

APPREHENSION OF A RAILWAY DEFAULTER.—Mr. Sutton, the station-master at the Porchester station on the London and Portsmouth Railway, and who was also proprietor of Porchester Castle and pleasure grounds, having effected his escape from the custody of the officer who had arrested him at the instance of the directors of the South-Western Railway Company, on a charge of embezzling several large sums of money belonging to them, and received by him as their servant, was arrested in Cork, on Tuesday last, by an officer of the detective police.

A GAMEKEEPER CONVICTED OF POACHING.—At the magistrates' office, Halifax, Levi Smith, gamekeeper at Fifty-park, was charged by George Syke, gamekeeper of Sir John Lister Kaye, with trespassing upon Kichworth Moor, with a gun, in pursuit of game, without leave. As it appeared he had been previously warned not to trespass upon these preserves, he was adjudged to pay the full penalty of £2, with £1 4s. expenses. James Schofield, of Longwood, labourer, who had been engaged in "coving" the ground towards Smith, was convicted in the mitigated penalty of 19s., with £1 4s. costs.

THE PERILS OF A SUCCESSFUL SUIT.—At Bow-street police-office, on Monday, Mr. Robert Laurence Walker, a gentlemanly-looking man, described as a farmer of Teversham, near Cambridge, was charged upon a warrant with having addressed a hostile letter to Mr. David Mathews, a magistrate of Canterbury, "inciting him to fight a duel." The evidence adduced on the occasion disclosed these facts:—Both of the gentlemen had been paying their addresses to a certain young lady, who had been residing at the village of Arlington. Mr. Mathews, however, being the successful suitor, the parties came up to London with the view of a matrimonial alliance. On Saturday morning last the wedding was appointed to take place, but was suddenly stayed in consequence of the receipt by Mr. Mathews, while sleeping at Kinder's hotel, of the letter in question, in which he was politely invited to communicate with the writer "in reference to an appeal to certain 'instruments'" by no means suggestive of agreeable associations. An application was therefore made to Mr. Henry, the magistrate, who immediately issued his warrant, under which the rejected and belittled suitor was arrested and brought before him. The defendant, who appeared much younger than the complainant, having pleaded guilty to the charge, was ordered by the magistrate to enter into his own recognizances in £150, and to find two sureties of £75 each, to keep the peace for six months to Mr. Mathews, and all other of her Majesty's subjects. This order having been immediately complied with, the defendant was discharged.

STATISTICS OF INSANITY.—From the reports of the visiting justices of Haswell and Colney-hatch Lunatic Asylum, some very interesting facts have been obtained, and afford ample materials for the consideration and contemplation of the philanthropist. At the Haswell Asylum during the year 1850 patients were received—viz., 88 males and 102 females. The causes of the disorders of the males being moral in 31 cases, and physical in 57 others—the rest being unascertained. For the females, the moral causes were 5, and physical 19. The moral causes in the males are thus enumerated: Poverty, 3; domestic unhappiness, 2; disappointed affection, 3; grief, 3; dissipated habits, 1; over study of religious subjects, 3; anxiety, 2; political excitement, 1; remorse, 1; disappointed expectation, 1. On the female side—Disappointed affection, 1; grief, 1; poverty, 2; grief, 1. They were mainly divided as to religious principles as follows:—Church of England, males, 48; females, 68; Roman Catholic, males, 4; females, 4; not ascertained, males, 32; females, 23. As regards education the following results were obtained:—Well educated, male, 1; females, 18; plainly educated, males, 15; read and write, males, 33; females, 30; read, males, 2; females, 11; not ascertained, males, 32; females, 43. At the Colney-hatch Asylum 411 males and 669 females had been received. Causes of disorders:—Males, moral, 89; physical, 140. In the female branch the following only were ascertained:—Moral causes, 90; physical, 135. The moral causes of the males are thus enumerated:—Domestic grief, 7; intemperance of wife, 7; dread of poverty, 7; want of employment, 6; reverse of fortune, loss of property, &c., 12; loss of wife or children, 3; disappointed affection, 3; unhappiness at home, 1; erroneous views in religion, 3; sudden shocks, frights, &c., 29; jealousy, 3; pride, 3; over anxiety, 2; sudden loss of several cows, 1; revere for a theft, 1; suicide of a brother, 1; over excitement at the Great Exhibition, 1. On this head the female side stands thus:—Domestic misery, from desertion or ill-treatment of husband, 13; loss of husband, children, parents, &c., 14; domestic grief, poverty, &c., 10; shock on information of sudden death of relative, 6; disappointed affection, 15; neglect, 6; through reaching the trials of Mannings, the murderers, 1; father a highwayman, 1; erroneous views of religion, 1; despondency on quitting service of long duration, 2; accidental poisoning of a daughter, 1; omission in a bill, 1; fright, 14; loss of property, 3; over-indulgence of parents, 1. Education: read and write, males, 171; females, 275; read only, male, 63; females, 135; no education, males, 79; females, 183. Religion: Church of England, males, 238; females, 414; Roman Catholic, males, 35; females, 74; Dissenters, males, 90; females, 102; unknown, males, 34; females, 79.

TREATMENT OF PAUPER LUNATICS.—At a recent meeting of the vestry of St. Pancras Parish, it was resolved to appoint a committee to inquire into the allegations made against Mr. Robinson's (the house-surgeon) treatment of lunatics, in compliance with the application of that gentleman himself. It is in contemplation to erect a permanent lunatic asylum in this parish.



ETNA IN ERUPTION.

IN our Journal of the 4th instant we described the splendid Eruption of Etna, which commenced on the 20th ult. We now present our readers with a view of the phenomenon, with further details. The scene is stated to have been indescribably grand: heaven and earth presenting one magnificent glare of light—Etna above vomiting its sulphuric flames; the Colossi below belching forth its dense masses of smoke, lurid from the furnace below; the huge mountain pouring out prolonged moanings; without, the hurricane roaring in all its awful majesty. Within the crater forty small furnaces were burning awfully; these, as they reached Catania, seemed to amalgamate.

Another account, dated Catania, August 30, states:—"On the 20th and 21st of this month Etna began to give signs of unusual activity, which was followed by the opening of two new craters, below the original cup, and towards the east, near a spot known by the name of Pietra Mussora. The mountain commenced its labours on this occasion by throwing up clouds of small stones and ashes, which curled about in the air and assumed a variety of forms, owing to eccentric currents of wind, which appeared to proceed from the chasms of the mountain. Molten lava followed this eruption of ashes and stones; and from the newly-opened fiery mouths of the mountain a burning stream of liquid stone lit up the masses of smoke, which now extend more than a thousand feet upwards, while the country around is frequently veiled. The lava flows in two distinct streams; one in the direction of Milo, and the other towards Zangarano, burning up every tree and shrub within sixty yards on either side. The few dwellings scattered near either of the streams are deserted, and the direction of the destructive element is anxiously watched, as one stream threatens a valley rich with vegetation and the vine. As I now write, a sort of booming thunder rumbles in the 'bowels of the earth'—a fiery vapour quivers about the clouds of smoke, from which a shower of ashes falls like rain, and is carried as far as the sea. The effect at night is very grand. The sky is illuminated by a red glare, and the immediate vicinity of the mountain is terrific."

It is worthy of note that the above eruption of Etna occurred on the same day as the shock of an earthquake was felt through most parts of Cornwall, and referred to at the time by the daily papers.



ETNA, FROM THE HARBOUR OF CATANIA.



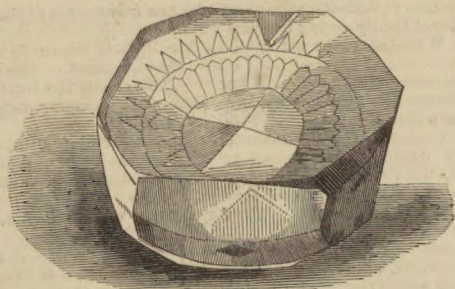
ETNA, FROM NICOLOSI.



COORG HARVEST FESTIVAL, MADRAS.

THE KOH-I-NOOR.

THE descriptions by Eastern travellers of the magnitude, brilliancy, and beauty of this famous diamond, designated "The Mountain of Light," caused exaggerated notions to be entertained upon these points in the Western hemisphere, and when, denuded of ornament, it was placed before the eye in the Crystal Palace, the criticisms of the public, as may be well remembered, were by no means complimentary. The most competent judges, however, were unanimous in admitting that this apparent dulness was mainly owing to the peculiarities of its Oriental cutting; and immediately after the close of the Exhibition steps were taken to ascertain whether this could not be re-



THE KOH-I-NOOR DIAMOND, ORIGINAL STATE.

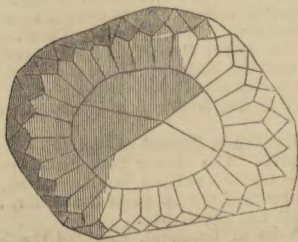
medied by subjecting it to the process of re-cutting, upon the improved principles of modern art; and finally it was determined to submit it to this operation, and Messrs. Garrard, of Panton-street, Haymarket, the Crown Jewellers, received directions to that effect.

Of the commencement of the work by his Grace the Duke of Wellington, and of the *modus operandi* by which it was to be effected, a notice appeared in this Journal of the 24th of July last.

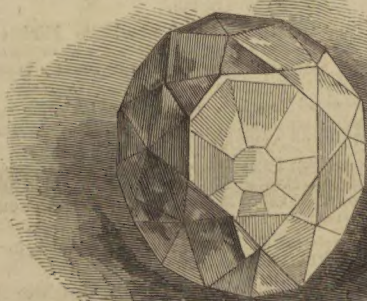
We have now to announce the successful completion of this work, under the superintendence of M. Guillaume Coster, a skilful lapidary, and the London partner of the firm M. E. Coster, at Amsterdam, by two cutters, Feder and Voorzanger, from their establishment. The diamond has now assumed a new shape, that of an oval brilliant.

It is now reversed: what was the lower face is now the upper, and a part which was irregularly shaped, and was supposed not to be quite perfect, has been cut away.

The effect of the operation has been entirely to remove the apparent dulness of the stone, and to develop to a wonderful degree its surpassing clearness, brilliancy, and beauty. It has proved to be, without doubt, a gem of the finest water, and is now, perhaps, the most



PLAN.



THE KOH-I-NOOR DIAMOND, RE-CUT.

valuable diamond in the world. The two smaller diamonds, its accompanying pendants, have undergone a similar transformation, with a like gratifying result. The Koh-i-noor, it is understood, will form the centre ornament of a tiara or Royal diadem; and the smaller gems, it is supposed, will form portions of a collar of diamonds; but their exact appropriation is not yet determined.

The greatest diameter being now taken, through what was an oblique line gives, of course, a larger space.

COORG HARVEST FESTIVAL.

THE presence of the ex-Rajah of Coorg and his daughter in London has, doubtless, awakened some curiosity as to the manners and appearance of the inhabitants of that beautiful portion of the Madras Presidency. We have, therefore, engraved the accompanying Sketch of a Coorg Festival, celebrated annually at the ripening

of the harvest. It differs from an English harvest-home in that it precedes, instead of succeeding, the gathering in of the grain; in fact, no Coorg would think of putting his sickle into his fields until this Festival had been celebrated with all due ceremony. The dance, too, unlike our harvest-home, when lads and lasses meet in the merry ring, is performed solely by the men, the women remaining spectators of the sport. Seated beneath the spreading branches of some fine tree, they, with the elders and children, patiently wait till the setting of the sun permits them to partake of the harvest supper, at which there is no lack of good cheer; for the Coorgs, though Hindoos, have few Hindoo prejudices; and, like the mountaineers of some other countries, are fond of their "own mountain dew."

They invite the English strangers to witness their dances and games of agility, and when he visits their houses the women invariably come forward to make their salaam of welcome to the newly-arrived guest.

In the great respect paid to the elders of the tribes, and in several other observances, there is much patriarchal simplicity; we have shown in the foreground of the Sketch a young man greeting an elder.

Coorg is divided into districts called Naads, and the inhabitants of



INAUGURATION OF THE STATUE OF THE LATE SIR ROBERT PEEL, AT BURY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

each Naad celebrate this Harvest Festival among them-selves in some central spot, generally chosen for its smooth space and fine trees. The dances generally commence with a slow measured step, each performer making many bows to his neighbour, and waving a shawl or handkerchief round his head; this is succeeded by an-ther dance, performed in much quicker time; and the handkerchiefs are exchanged for a couple of sticks, which each man brandishes, first over his own head, and then against his neighbour's weapons. The musicians are placed at a short distance; their instruments are colliery horns and tom-toms. To the dances succeed single combats with shield and stick.

STATUE TO PEEL AT BURY.

THE inhabitants of Bury have shown their appreciation of the merits of their celebrated townsman, the late Sir Robert Peel, by erecting, in the market-square of their town, a noble bronze statue, at the cost of £2500, which was publicly uncovered on Wednesday week, in the presence of a very crowded assembly. Among the more distinguished members who assisted on the occasion were—Mr. Frederick Peel, M.P., son, and the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester and Mr. Lawrence Peel, brothers of the lamented statesman; Mr. W. Brown, M.P., Mr. Wilson Patten, M.P., and a great number of the local gentry and leading inhabitants of Bury. Previous to the ceremony of the inauguration, a numerous company assembled at one o'clock, at Chamber Hall, about half a mile from Bury, the house in which the late Sir Robert Peel was born. It is now the residence of Mr. Edmund Hardman, who also owns the adjacent print works, a great portion of which were the property of the first Sir Robert Peel. It is a substantial double-fronted brick building, lying a little to the west of the East Lancashire Railway, and has long been a subject of curious interest to the traveller. The company were shown over the house by Mr. Hardman, who pointed out, among other things, the bed-room in which the late statesman first drew breath. About half past one o'clock a procession, headed by the band of the 4th Regiment, was formed upon the lawn, consisting of the Independent Order of Old Fellows, three a-breast, followed by the Freemasons; and after them the Improvement Commissioners of Bury, the magistrates of the division, the committee, Mr. Bai y, R.A. (the sculptor), and the subscribers by whose aid the monument was raised.

The procession arrived at the market-square shortly after two o'clock, the concourse present at the moment being little short of 20,000 persons. Immediately after the arrival of the procession amidst the enlivening strains of the military band, which played "Rule Britannia," the chiming of bells, and the cheers of the vast multitude, the Statue was uncovered. The effigy is 10 feet high, and the attitude easy but commanding. The statesman is represented standing with his left hand resting on his side, the right hand slightly raised and extended, the chest well thrown out; and the uncovered head, though erect, is natural and life-like. The attire is that so generally worn by the late Baronet; and the sculptor, Mr. E. H. Bai y, R.A., has succeeded in placing the open surcoat in a manner exceedingly characteristic. The features are truthful and striking. The figure looks rather massive in regard to breadth, but it was very much admired and highly spoken of by those present who were best acquainted with Sir Robert Peel. The figure rests upon a piece of rockwork, also in bronze, 18 inches high, placed upon a massive square pedestal of Aberdeen grey granite, 12 feet high, and is surrounded by a handsome railing in bronze. In front of the pedestal is the word "Peel," with the family arms. The letters stand out prominently in granite, and similarly carved, on the back of the pedestal is the memorable quotation from Sir Robert's speech:—

It may be that I shall leave a name sometimes remembered with expressions of respect in the abodes of those whose lot it is to labour, and to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow, when they shall recruit their exhausted strength with abundant and untaxed food, the sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice.

On the other sides of the pedestal are bas-reliefs in bronze, one representing "Commerce," and the other "Navigation."

Mr. E. Grundy, of the Wyld; Mr. Openshaw, of the Bury Improvement Commissioners; and Mr. F. Bazley, President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, having briefly delivered some observations appropriate to the occasion, the boys of the Bury Grammar-school sang the National Anthem, and thus the ceremony of the inauguration closed.

The occasion was celebrated by a dinner at the Town-hall in the evening, at which Mr. Grundy, of the Wyld, presided, and on his left were the Very Rev. John Peel, D.D., Dean of Worcester; Mr. F. Peel, M.P.; Mr. Bazley and Mr. R. Peel Wilcock; on the right were Mr. Joshua Knowles, Mr. T. Wrigley, Captain Hort, and Mr. Bai y (the sculptor). There were also present Mr. R. Ashton, Mr. J. R. Kay, Mr. T. Calrow, Mr. J. W. Swanwick, Mr. J. Lomax; Mr. E. Grundy, of Bridge Hall; Mr. W. Grant, Mr. W. Openshaw, and Mr. Hardman. Letters of apology were read from the Duke of Wellington, Sir J. Graham, the Earl of Ellesmere, Mr. Cobden, and other distinguished men.

The speeches and toasts were of the usual character on these occasions.

THE WOKING CEMETERY.

On Tuesday about 250 gentlemen, churchwardens, and overseers of London parishes, proceeded to Woking-common, for the purpose of inspecting the grounds bought by the Necropolis Company, under act of Parliament. The object of the visit was to enable the parochial authorities to decide for themselves, and report to the different parishes the nature of the accommodation provided by the company for the burial of the city dead.

The company has at Woking 2000 acres of land suitable for burial ground, which they will allot to parishes, so that each lot would be as much under the control of the parish as a churchyard is at present. Taking the annual metropolitan average of interments to be 50,000 it is computed that the company's ground would not be filled with one layer of bodies in 400 years. It is so estimated that bodies may be conveyed from London to the ground by the South-Western Railway, the funeral service be duly performed, and the mourners return to London in two hours.

In the centre of a large portion of the ground an edifice will be erected, where the service of the Church of England will be performed. Wherever a parish may wish to have a burial ground distinct to itself, ground may be so secured, and thus the individuality of the parochial graveyard may be preserved. Spots will be appropriated where the various denominations of Christians may be interred with the forms and ceremonies which are most congenial to their own convictions. A portion will also be left wholly unenclosed, for the use of those who object to any ministerial interference in the burial of their dead.

From a suitable depositary at the Waterloo Station of the South-Western Railway, the bodies will be periodically transmitted by trains to the reception station at Woking. The mourners, supplied with free tickets, will be conveyed in separate compartments or carriages, the cost of the journey to and fro being included in the tariff of charges. Arrived at the private station of the Necropolis at Woking, the funeral train will be formed. Although ministers of religion will be provided at the Necropolis, it will still be open to all parish authorities or individuals to consult their own feelings on the attendance of the spiritual head of their particular parish or community. There is a clause in the act by which the members of the several parishes from which bodies are removed will receive their accustomed fees, while they will be relieved from the performance of their ministerial duty.

A collation having been provided, under a marquee, of which the party partook, a resolution was agreed to, to the effect that the Necropolis Company possessed a "national cemetery," a mirably adapted for its purpose; and that the company, consequently, were entitled to the support of the public.

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.—"KILLING NO MURDER."—We find the following in the Richmond (United States) Times:—"A gentleman named Ball, overseer for Edward T. Tayloe, finding it necessary to chastise a field hand for insubordination or idleness, attempted to do so in the field, when the negro resisted, made fight, and being the stronger of the two, gave the overseer a very severe beating, and then betook himself to the woods. Mr. Ball, as soon as he could do so, mounted his horse, and proceeding to Mr. Tayloe's residence, informed him of what had occurred. Mr. Tayloe, in company with Ball, repaired to the corn-field, to which the negro had returned, and demanded to know the cause of his conduct. The negro replied that Mr. Ball had attempted to whip him, but that he would not submit to it. Mr. Tayloe said he should, and ordering him to cross his hands, directed Mr. Ball to take hold of him. Mr. Ball did so, but perceiving that the negro had drawn a knife, told Mr. Tayloe of it, who immediately sprang from his horse, and drawing a pistol from his pocket, shot the negro dead at his feet." Upon this the Richmond Republican comments as follows:—"Mr. Tayloe did just what every man who has the management of negroes should do—enforce obedience or kill them."

MAGNETIC BALLOON ASCENT.—Applications have, it is said, been made to the proprietors of the different public places of entertainment from whence balloons ascend, to take place by an individual who wishes to make an ascent, suspended 20 feet below the car, by magnetic attraction. The method by which he proposes to accomplish this feat is this: he possesses a magnet, the attractive power of which will sustain a weight of 150 lb.; this is to be hung by a line 20 feet below the car; round his body is fixed an iron zone, which on being brought near the magnet firmly attaches itself thereto.

N.B.—The *Illustrated Advertiser* says that the coppice woods in High Wycombe have produced an extraordinary quantity of hazel, and this season the gathering of which gives daily employment to many squatters as well as to the labouring class.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, September 19.—15th Sunday after Trinity. Battle of Poitiers, 1356.
MONDAY, 20.—Battles of Newbury, 1643.
TUESDAY, 21.—St. Matthew.
WEDNESDAY, 22.—New Post office opened, 1829.
THURSDAY, 23.—Length of day 12h 6m.
FRIDAY, 24.—Butler the poet died, 1630.
SATURDAY, 25.—Porsor died, 1808.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPT 24, 1852.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 35	5 55	6 20	6 45	7 10	7 45
8 35	8 55	9 20	9 45	10 10	10 45
11 35	11 55	12 20	12 45	1 10	1 45
4 35	4 55	5 20	5 45	6 10	6 45
7 35	7 55	8 20	8 45	9 10	9 45
10 35	10 55	11 20	11 45	12 10	12 45

ILLUSTRATED LIFE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

In the Press, an ILLUSTRATED LIFE of FIELD-MARSHAL
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON,
The COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH ARMY.
BY J. H. STOCQUELER, ESQ.,
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London: INGRAM, COOKE, and Co., 227, Strand.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1852.

We have elsewhere fully recorded the circumstances attending the death of the Duke of Wellington—he, who but a few days ago was the greatest of living men, and who now, that he has submitted to the last universal law of humanity, leaves behind him a name and a fame as pure and as mighty as ever adorned the page of history, or dwelt upon the breath of tradition. We have nothing to add to that complete record of his military services, drawn up by one who was himself a soldier; but shall on some future and early occasion take the opportunity to narrate at greater length his useful career as a statesman. Amid the universal regret which his death has occasioned, the people of England may, and will, have the mournful satisfaction that the man whom they so honour in his death—and to whom, if permitted by the recorded wishes or directions of the illustrious dead, they will give a public funeral, such as was never before seen or imagined in any other country—was as much honoured and beloved in his life as it was possible for a man to be. Ingratitude is by no means a crime which may be charged against this nation. Those who gain great victories for the English people are always valued at their proper worth; and, if their character be pure, as the Duke's was, invariably receive the tribute of grateful affection. History records that years rolled on without allaying the general sorrow which ensued on the death of the Black Prince. In the Wars of the Roses, the Lancastrian watchword "Agincourt and Harry of Monmouth!" would always rally the wavering. "Henry the Fifth, that made all France to quake" was a recollection which eventually restored his descendants to the throne. Sovereign and subjects gladly gave peerages, palaces, and pensions to Marlborough; but the same gifts and honours, and many more, however largely lavished upon the Duke of Wellington, seemed never to fill up the measure of public satisfaction. The people of England doated on his fame.

In political as in private life; in the greatest movements of the State, so often depending on his single course of action; in the minutest occurrences of his domestic life, so quaintly and agreeably methodical, the Duke was incessantly talked of and thought of. No great show of state ceremonial or state rejoicing was considered complete or satisfactory without the presence of the Duke. But it is needless to further urge a truth which all will readily admit; and it requires no prophetic powers to foresee that the British people will cherish the memory of this, their mightiest soldier.

Yet amid the regret of the nation—a regret which will long endure—we cannot join in the lamentations of those who consider the removal of the great Duke to be a national calamity that may injuriously effect the future course of events, either at home or abroad. The hero had done his work; and England at no period since his health and strength began to decline, was in a position to reflect that national work was to be done, with no man to do it. Time produces its own men. Events bring, out their own heroes; and a combination of circumstances, similar to, or still more critical and remarkable than, those which raised up a Wellington in the hour of his country's need; will, under the favour of Heaven, it would be unwise to doubt, produce another man as honest and as serviceable as he was, to meet, like him, the same reward, the approval of a good conscience and the gratitude of his own and future generations.

In proportion as the time draws near for the opening of Parliament, the subject of the Property and Income-tax grows in importance. It is felt that on the continuance or discontinuance of that tax the fate of the Administration may be made to hang. We, in common with most of our contemporaries, have often pointed out the grievances of the present act; but we must say that the grievances are far more apparent than the remedy. The new system—suggested by Mr. Hume, and by some actuaries, who, finding, in their limited sphere of usefulness, no difficulty in discovering the relative value of a few hundred ages, imagine they can as easily calculate for the almost

endless sources of incomes belonging to the whole kingdom—is not by any means so simple as it appears. Their plan, however sound in theory, might be found, in practice, to be surrounded with greater difficulties and hardships than those endured under the present act. The Corn Laws being defunct, past hope—or, rather, past fear—of revival, and the people having tasted the luxury of the cheap loaf, naturally look for the abolition of import duties upon other articles of consumption, such as tea and coffee; and it is becoming clear, if there is to be any revenue at all, that we must look to direct taxation as the source from which it is to flow. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that direct taxation should be justly imposed, and that it should not do violence to common sense and common honesty. Mr. Hume's plan and that of the actuaries, under which every source of a man's income is to be valued, is on one point even more objectionable than the present mode of levying the tax. If Schedule D, which only touches one source of income, that derived from trade &c., is stigmatised as inquisitorial, for compelling A to tell B—who is perhaps his next-door neighbour, and his rival in business—what he makes by his profession and trade, how much more inquisitorial will be the system which is to lay bare every source of income to the eyes of district officials? It is an extension of the evil in one direction, without any advantage in another; and we are convinced that, under its operation, evasion and fraud would be increased. Leaving out of consideration the complicated questions that have been raised as to the valuing of all incomes whatsoever, and whencesoever derived, the main point for the Government would be to satisfy the earners of income that the tax, as regards them, is fair and just, and subjects them to no unreasonable scrutiny or annoyance. There is no difficulty as regards the Property Tax; and we think that if the tax were continued at three per cent., as now, upon all realised property whatsoever, whether under the magic line of £150 per annum or not, and reduced to two per cent. upon all incomes above £150 per annum, that the justice of the case would be satisfied, and that we should hear no more complaints from those persons now assessed under Schedule D. This arrangement would obviate a whole host of difficulties. The tax is not unpopular in itself. It is only unpopular because it is felt to be unfair to the hard-working men who earn precarious incomes. These very men would cheerfully pay it if the State would but recognise the difference between the transitory and the permanent; between the perishable salary and the annuity derived from funded or landed property. We know that the tax has advocates, who insist that income ought to pay exactly as much as realised property; and others, who go still further, and assert that income being the more perishable in times of peril, revolution, and invasion, ought to pay all the more heavily for the protection it enjoys from law and Government; but this course of reasoning is not popular. It is because we are in favour of the principle of that tax, as the best and fairest that can be levied, that we so earnestly desire it to be reconciled to the feelings of the people. The worst thing that could befall the country at the present time would be its abolition.

THE COURT.

BALMORAL.

The Queen and the Prince Consort are enjoying the retirement of their Highland home, under the favourable circumstances of fine weather, of which her Majesty and the other members of the Royal family take every advantage. The Queen walks every morning in the grounds, and generally drives out during the day; the Prince Consort devoting himself to the sports of grouse-shooting and deer-stalking, the latter being generally preferred, owing to the wildness of the birds. On Wednesday night a gloom was thrown over the Court, on receipt of the melancholy intelligence of the demise of his Grace the Duke of Wellington, which, despatched to Edinburgh by electric telegraph, was forwarded thence to Balmoral by special messenger. It was fully expected that the Prince Consort would leave Balmoral on Thursday, for London, for the purpose of condoling with the members of the Duke's family, and consulting with them as to the arrangements for the funeral of this great and lamented man.

The *Court Newsman* thus chronicles the movements of the Queen and the Royal family during the past week:—

On Wednesday, the 8th instant, her Majesty drove to Gairn Shield, the residence of Mr. and Lady Catherine Cavendish. The dinner party on the same evening included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Serene Highness the Princess Hohenlohe Langenbourg, and Lady Augusta Bruce.

On Thursday, the 9th instant, her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the Princess Helena, and Prince Alfred, drove to Castletown to be present at the annual gathering of the Highlanders on Dee-side. The Royal party was received on the ground by the Farquharson, Duff, Arlie, and Forbes Highlanders, fully equipped. Mr. Farquharson, of Invercauld, and Mr. James Duff, of Carriemulzie, conducted her Majesty to the terrace of Braemar Castle, beneath which the usual Highland games were carried on with great spirit. The Royal party returned to Balmoral at six o'clock.

On Friday, the 10th instant, her Majesty and the Princess Royal drove to the forest, where his Royal Highness Prince Albert went out deer-stalking. In the evening, her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert went to a *balla dannsadh na leus*, given at Carriemulzie Cottage, by Lady Agnes Duff, at which all the Highlanders of the Duff and Farquharson clans were present.

On Sunday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert attended divine service in the parish church of Crathie. The service was performed by the Rev. A. Anderson. The Countess of Desart, the Hon. Mary Seymour, the Earl of Derby, Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps, and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. Gordon, were the attendants in waiting.

On Monday afternoon her Majesty drove, accompanied by the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and Princess Helena, to Invercauld House, and remained there during the afternoon. The Countess of Desart was in attendance on her Majesty. His Royal Highness Prince Albert went out deer-stalking. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert were present at a ball given at Aberfeldie by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent to the tenantry and servants on the estate.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince Consort went to Ballochbuie, accompanied by the Princess Royal. The dinner party in the evening included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Serene Highness the Princess Hohenlohe Langenbourg, Lady Augusta Bruce, Mr. James Duff, M.P., and Lady Agnes Duff, and Mr. Brooke.

Archdeacon Lattam has arrived at Balmoral, and had the honour of dining with her Majesty on Monday.

The Earl of Malmesbury has left Balmoral, and has been succeeded by the Earl of Derby, who remains in attendance upon her Majesty.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, who have been on a visiting tour in the Highlands, returned to the embassy, in Grosvenor-square, at the close of last week.

Their Excellencies the Count and Countess de Lavradio and suite have left town for the Continent. Their Excellencies are expected to return to the Portuguese Legation in the course of a month.

His Excellency Baron Bentinck, the Netherlands Minister, left London last Sunday for Rotterdam, on leave of absence for a few weeks. His Excellency will resume his diplomatic functions in this country towards the end of next month.

The Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, and the Ladies Somerset have arrived at Trey House, from Llangattock Park, Monmouthshire. The Duke and Duchess of Bedford are at present staying with their Graces.

Lord Brougham entertained a large party of the nobility and gentry of the vicinity, at Brougham Hall, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., to celebrate the coming of age of his nephew, Mr. Henry Brougham. The festivities closed with a ball and supper to the noble Baron's household.

The Hon. Mrs. Norton passed through Inverness, last week, for Aberdeen, on her return from Dunrobin Castle.

We regret to learn that the Hon. Selina Denison, daughter of Lord Londesborough, died on the 11th inst., at Piccadilly-terrace, aged only fifteen.

THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

WALMER CASTLE, which is now, and will be hereafter, celebrated as the place in which the illustrious Duke of Wellington expired, is situated on the south coast of England, within ten minutes' walk of Deal, a small port about five miles from Dover. The Duke of Wellington has for many years occupied this interesting place, in right of his office of Chief Warden of the Cinque Ports. The Castle, in former times, was well fortified, and has withstood the wear of ages without any perceptible marks of decay.

The interior of the Castle is fitted up in a remarkably plain manner, yet possessing every comfort. On the occasion of the Queen's visit to Walmer, in 1842, her Majesty was so charmed with the simplicity of the place, that she begged to be allowed to extend her visit a week longer than she at first intended; and it may be remarked, that, when intimation was received that the Queen intended to honour the Duke with a visit, the only preparation made at Walmer Castle was to put out a plate-glass window, to enable her Majesty to have a better view of the sea. A stand for a time-piece was required for Prince Albert, and the Duke sent for the village carpenter, who made it of common deal wood, and it is now a fixture in the bed-room. Her Majesty is stated to have been much delighted at this simplicity of the Duke.

The furniture of the Castle, as already remarked, is plain throughout; and we are informed by a correspondent who visited the Castle a few months ago, that the Duke had only indulged his fancy in two ornaments—one a small ivory statuette of Napoleon, and the other, a common plaster cast of Jenny Lind: these, with some common engravings of former Wardens of the Castle, were the sole things in the shape of ornament throughout the Castle.

"The Duke (says the same correspondent) occupied only one room; this was his library, his study, and his bed-room. The bed consisted of a small iron bedstead, three feet wide, with a mattress only of about three inches thick, with a slight covering—no blankets. The Duke always removed his pillow, and took it as part of his luggage.

"The Duke's mode of living was simple. He was an early riser, and was generally out of doors before seven o'clock; he breakfasted at nine o'clock precisely, taking tea and bread and butter only, eating little, and generally abstaining from taking food between breakfast and dinner. He generally dined at seven o'clock. He then partook heartily of the best French dinner to be procured, seldom or never drinking anything except iced water. After dinner he usually withdrew to his room, and there remained until he retired to rest. During the Queen's visit the Duke frequently joined the party in the drawingroom, but scarcely ever remained more than an hour after dinner.

"In one part of Walmer Castle may be seen a room, not more than eight feet wide, with walls three feet thick. This was the room where the celebrated William Pitt used to meet Lord Nelson. In that room were planned the future victories and proceedings of the English fleet during the wars of the French Revolution.

"The Duke of Wellington regularly took up his abode in this interesting place in September, and resided in it two months every year. He was beloved by the population of the district, who were grateful for his invariable kindness and condescension.

TREATY OF COMMERCE BETWEEN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

A statement was published in the *Morning Chronicle* on Monday last, from which it would appear that a commercial treaty between the two countries, with a view to the mutual reduction of the tariffs of both, was on the point of being concluded. The statement was as follows:—

It has, we understand, been rumoured at St. Cloud during the past week, that M. de Persigny has settled, with the British Cabinet, the basis of a treaty of reciprocal free-trade between England and France. It is stated that the principle of the arrangement on which the two Governments have agreed is, that all the commodities of each country shall be admitted into the other, on payment of a low duty—the highest impost levied by either on the productions of its neighbour not to exceed 15 per cent. It is added that the rate of postage between the two countries is to be reduced to seven sous, instead of sixteen, as at present.

In reference to this, the *Morning Herald*, which is regarded as the official organ of the Derby Cabinet, states that the announcement by its daily contemporary was "premature," thus leading to the inference that there were grounds for the original announcement. The *Chronicle* on Thursday, notices the apparent contradiction of the Ministerial organ, and reiterates its assertion that "the basis" of such a treaty "has been settled."

It should be observed, however, that the official organ of the French Government, the *Moniteur*, contradicts the announcement of the *Chronicle*.

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer arrived at Rome on the 4th instant. This visit to the British Ambassador to the Papal Court is mainly caused by the complicated Murray affair, to which Sir Henry Bulwer has all along been giving his active attention.

It is stated to be the intention of the London and North-Western Railway Company forthwith to increase the speed of one train daily between London and Birmingham, and vice versa, so that the distance shall be performed in two hours. Engines adequate to the task have been constructed under the superintendence of Mr. McConnell, and are nearly ready for delivery. Before the end of the month it is expected that London may be reached in the brief space specified.

On Sunday last at the Roman Catholic Church of Adare, county Limerick, Ireland, the Earl of Donraven attended mass, and made a public profession of faith in the doctrines of the Roman Catholic religion. The noble Earl, who has hitherto been a member of the Established Church, is brother-in-law of Mr. Monsell, M.P., who joined the Roman Catholic Church a year or two since.

There are now six large first-class vessels lying at the quays of Bristol bound for Australia; and it is estimated that, in addition to 1693 passengers who have already left, the number of emigrants during the present year will be 4000. In addition to its own immediate district, a number of emigrants leave the port of Bristol from the Midland Counties, Devon, Cornwall, and South Wales.

As Mr. John Parsons, aged 45, late expositor of Burford's Panorama, was proceeding to his residence, Haverstock Hill, on Tuesday night, the shaft of a brewer's dray struck him on the head, knocking him down, when the wheels passed over his head, smashing it to jelly.

A retired drayman, formerly in the employ of Messrs. Truman, Buxton, and Co. came from the country a few days ago, and presented £50 to the London Hospital, in token, he said, of his gratitude for the great kindness and attention he had received when an inmate of that institution thirty years ago. At the same time he gave £50 to the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum.

A large ship water-logged was recently observed off the island of Janikaea, near the coast of Erisia, county Mayo, and was towed in by the islanders. Her masts were gone by the board; she was timber laden, and had been so long at sea that all trace of her name was gone; she has, therefore, been taken possession of on behalf of the Admiralty.

A man, residing in the Rue Quincampoix, formerly the porter of an hotel, who has for some time been possessed of the idea that he could imitate Icarus, and fly in the air, endeavoured last week to carry out his design by flying from the window, which was on the fourth floor. He fell into the courtyard, and was killed on the spot.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—A general court of the governor, directors, and proprietors of the Bank of England was held at twelve o'clock on Thursday, for the purpose of considering a dividend, and also as a quarterly court, according to the charter; Thomas Hankey, jun., Esq., Governor of the Bank, in the chair. The Governor said:—"The net profits of the half-year ending on the 31st of August last have been £518,465, which, added to the rest remaining after the payment of the last half-yearly dividend, would leave a sum of £3,540,535 available for a dividend; and the directors recommend to the court to declare a dividend of £3 10s. per cent., without any deduction on account of income-tax, leaving the rest at £3,031,180. I have, therefore, to propose that a dividend of 3½ per cent., free of income-tax, be declared."

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday next, being St. Matthew's Day, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Governors of the several Royal Hospitals will attend divine service at Christ Church, Newgate-street, where a sermon will be preached by the Rev. John L. A. Airey, of Pembroke College, Cambridge, one of the masters of Merchant Tailors' School; after which they will repair to the Great Hall of Christ's Hospital, where four orations on the "Benefits of the Royal Hospitals" will be delivered by four of the senior scholars, according to annual custom—in Latin, by R. A. Lloyd; in English, by H. D. Sweeting; in Greek, by Hadarez Stone; in French, by J. G. Gantlett. Seven poems will next be recited by others of the senior scholars: viz.—Latin Alcaics, on Naples, by Thomas Armfield; Latin Elegiacs, on "Alfred the Great," by Henry Ievers; Greek Iambics, translations from Shakespeare, "Henry V.," by John Doran; Latin Supplies on "Ulysses Redux," by J. M. McLean; Latin Hexameters, translation from Youg's "Last Day," by Claude Parry; Greek Sapphics, on "Thametes Fluvius," by H. Ludlow; English poem, on "Our Indian Empire," by C. W. P. Watts. Also, H. D. Sweeting will recite a prize composition in Latin Hexameters, for which there has been made to him the first award of a medal (to be henceforth given annually) under the will of the late Rev. George Richards, D.D., a governor, and formerly an exhibitor of Christ's Hospital.

THE LEARNED SOCIETIES.—The Treasury having received a communication from the President of the Royal Society on the subject of the admission duty free of scientific publications, intended for learned institutions and individuals of eminent literary attainments in this country, as well as for the Smithsonian Institution in the United States of America, their Lordships have been pleased to approve of the institutions mentioned and included in a list enclosed in a letter of the President of the Royal Society, with the addition thereto of the Electrical Society, on the usual conditions; and their Lordships have also approved of the proposed arrangements for the delivery of books duty-free to such individuals as may be nominated by the Royal Society for the enjoyment of that privilege; and also for the delivery duty-free of publications intended for the Smithsonian Institution in the United States of America, and the observatories at Bombay, the Cape of Good Hope, Hobart Town, Madras, Toronto, and Trinidad, on that purpose.

THE REGISTRATION.—REVISION OF THE METROPOLITAN LISTS OF VOTERS.—Mr. Christie, the barrister, who has been appointed by the Lord Chief Justice for the revision of the lists of voters for the city of London, in the return of members to Parliament, held his court in the Court of Common Pleas, at the Guildhall, for that purpose, on Thursday morning, at ten o'clock. The different parishes, wards, &c., were taken in rotation alphabetically.—In the borough of Finsbury, Mr. John Frazer Macqueen is the revising barrister, and he also opened his court on Thursday, in the Lords Justices' Court, at Lincoln's Inn-fields.—In the county of Middlesex the revising barrister commenced holding his court on yesterday (Friday), at the Castle Inn, Brentford, at 11 A.M. On the 18th instant (this day) he will hold his court at the Black Dog, Bedford, at 11 A.M.; on Monday next, at 10 A.M., at the Sussex Hotel, Bourne-street, Fleet-street, for the parishes within the city of London.—On Tuesday, the 21st instant, the barrister will hold his court at the Lords Justices' Court, Westminster-hall, at 10 A.M., for Lincoln's Inn and parishes within the city of Westminster; and so on, by rotation, taking the various townships, hamlets, parishes, &c., within the county of Middlesex.

THE CITY OF LONDON REGISTRATION.—It is a singular fact, that on the present registration for the city of London, the right to vote has been objected to in the case of no fewer than 475 Freemen and Liverymen; whilst, on the other hand, only two persons have claimed to be placed on the registry.

THE RECORD REPOSITORY.—The first block of the extensive establishment now in course of erection in Rolls-buildings, stretching in extent from Fetter-lane to Chancery-lane, which is intended for the reception of the national records—after the building of which the duties will be consolidated—is rapidly progressing, under the superintendence of Mr. Pennethorne, the surveyor to the Woods and Forests. Some time since an order in Council was made to the effect, that all records, rolls, writs, books, proceedings, decrees, warrants, papers, documents, &c., of a public nature, deposited in any office, court, or place, should be henceforth under the charge and superintendence of the Master of the Rolls, and that a suitable building should be provided for their reception. The central portion of this proposed establishment now becomes exceedingly conspicuous in the neighbourhood. It is built of Caen stone, on the fire-proof principle, not a particle of wood being used, neither for beams, flooring, doors, nor for any other purpose. It is expected that it will be opened in the course of the ensuing year. The principal entrance will not be in Rolls-buildings. In the meantime precautionary measures have been taken at the Chapter House, Westminster, for the better security of the records kept there against fire. Several houses in the immediate locality of Fetter-lane and Chancery-lane will shortly be taken down; and it is said to be the intention of Government to form a new street *ad Carey-street*, from this site to the west-end, if the City authorities would do the same from Paternoster-row to the Rolls-buildings.

METROPOLITAN SEWERS COMMISSION.—On Tuesday a special court was held at the Greek-street office, at which the following commissioners were present: Richard Jebb, Esq. (chairman), Sir John Burgoyne, Sir Charles Fellows, Major Dawson, Laurence Redhead, Thomas Hawes, William Ho Kings, and George S. Smith, Esqrs. After several communications had been read by the secretary, Mr. Woolrych, the commission agreed to a resolution for the advance of £20,000 from the Royal Exchange Assurance Company, as a loan to the commission, for five years, at four per cent., to be secured by a mortgage on the several district rates.

THE CITY COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS.—On Tuesday the Commissioners assembled at Guildhall, after a vacation of six weeks.—Mr. D. P. Peacock in the chair. The inspectors reported very favourably of the condition of most of the narrow and confined localities, of the general state of which they have been in the habit of complaining to that court. Numbers of the wretched tenements, against which the medical officer of health had reported, had been abandoned, and some had been completely removed by the active interposition of the authorities.

BALLOON NIGHT ASCENT, WITH FIREWORKS.—On Tuesday last, Mr. H. Coxwell and three friends, viz. Mr. Chapman, of Fleet-street; Mr. H. Jones, Boar's Head, Cannon-street, City; and Mr. J. Dalton, jun., Blackheath, ascended in Mr. Coxwell's balloon, the Syph, at nine o'clock, from the Pavilion Gardens, North Woolwich, and, after a very pleasant trip of sixty-five minutes, descended safely at Chadwell Heath, Essex.

FIRE.—On Sunday morning, a fire broke out in one of the large warehouses, numbered 30, in London-wall, occupied conjointly by Messrs. Brown and Co., extensive drysalers; Messrs. Gibbins, Brothers, varnish manufacturers; Mr. Thomas Tarn, carpet weaver; Messrs. Springfields, and Co., silversmiths; and Messrs. Dobson and Co., ale and porter merchants, which were considerably injured, and the contents much damaged by fire and water. Only a portion of the property was insured. —About two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day a fire suddenly broke out on the premises occupied by Mr. White, linendraper and silk mercer, and Mr. Balham, a private gentleman, at No. 65, Middlesex-street, Somers' Town. All the inmates escaped, with much difficulty, excepting one of Mr. Balham's children, a boy only three years and a half old, who unfortunately perished in the flames.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD A WOOLWICH STRAMER.—On Tuesday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, as the old Woolwich Company's steam vessel, the *Niobe*, was proceeding on her passage from Woolwich to Hungerford-market, and had arrived off Billingsgate, a fishing-smack swung out of the tier at the fish-market, to proceed down the river, and a sudden gust of wind catching her main sail as the *Niobe* crossed her stern, the boom swept over the steamer's deck, knocking the passengers down and striking the funnel, which fell amongst the passengers. The *Niobe* was instantly stopped, when it was found that three females were lying crushed beneath the funnel. They were instantly extricated and removed without loss of time to Guy's Hospital, when it was found that one, named Jackson, residing at 30, Paris-street, Lambeth, was dead, and the two others severely injured.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—The births registered in the metropolis for the week ending Saturday, September 11 were—males, 749; females, 688; total, 1437. The deaths during the same period were—males, 491; females, 445; total, 936; which exhibits a further decline in mortality. There is an evident improvement in the health of the infant population, who generally suffer so much from the summer epidemic. Last week smallpox was fatal in 10 cases, measles in only 4; the cases referred to typhus are 32. Diarrhoea, dysentery, and cholera steadily decline: they were most fatal in the first week of August, when the deaths caused by the three diseases were collectively 241; their decrease since that week is shown by the following weekly numbers: 219, 228, 148, 120, and last week 101. On the other hand, scarlatina appears to be making some progress, and last week 58 children were its victims.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.789 inches. The mean temperature of the week was 60.7 deg., which is 1.8 deg. above the average of the same week in ten years. The wind blew generally from the north.

A little girl, 11 years of age, named Mary Davies, residing with her mother in Rolls-buildings, Mount Pleasant, while in the act of cleaning one of the windows, fell to the pavement beneath (30 feet). She sustained a compound fracture of the thigh and a concussion of the brain, from the effects of which she died soon afterwards.

THE LATE JOHN CAMDEN NEILD, ESQ.

The funeral of this gentleman took place on Thursday, the 9th inst., at North Marston, Bucks, the body having been unostentatiously removed from his residence, No. 5, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea, on the day preceding. The coffin was of oak, with solid handsome brass furniture, and inscribed, "John Camden Neild, Esq., Died 30th August, 1852, aged 72 years."

As several erroneous statements respecting the character and place of interment of the late Mr. Neild have appeared, it is right to mention, that although of most penurious habits, and always insisting upon the enforcement of what was legally his due, Mr. Neild was never known to degrade himself beneath the character of a gentleman.

Mr. John Camden Neild was born on the 31st of May, 1780; was a barrister-at-law, of Lincoln's Inn, and for many years a magistrate of the county of Middlesex. He was of very retired habits, and it is believed that he only received visitors on matters of business; the principal object, and, indeed, the only apparent occupation of his life, being the increase of the vast wealth left to him as sole heir by his father. He continued his support to the various charitable institutions to which his father had subscribed in his life time, and was not backward in responding to appeals made to him on behalf of local charities connected with the schools and other institutions in the parishes in which he resided, or where his estates were situated.

The only sister of Mr. Neild died in infancy, and his only brother died unmarried, leaving the subject of our present notice the only descendant and heir of James Neild, Esq., of Cheyne-walk, Chelsea, who was a most benevolent man, and co-operated with his friend, Dr. Lettsom, in establishing the Society for the Relief and Discharge of Persons Imprisoned for Small Debts. Mr. John Camden Neild thus became the possessor of an ample fortune. He held, in addition to a large funded property, very extensive landed estates, principally in Buckinghamshire, and likewise in the neighbourhood of Romney Marsh and Ashford, in Kent. The value of his property thus amassed is variously estimated, but probably is not much less than £500,000. We understand that the whole of this accumulated wealth has been bequeathed by Mr. Neild's will to her Majesty, with the exception of the trifling legacy of £100 to each of his executors. Mr. Neild left no immediate relatives; he was never married, and his deceased brother died unmarried. Under these circumstances we should pause before we offer any remark upon what is an unusual, and may appear at first to be a strange disposition of wealth. If Mr. Neild bequeathed no acknowledgment of his gratitude to his faithful and devoted servant, and but a trifling token of remembrance to his immediate acquaintances and old friends, he may have reflected that he had done all that was necessary in leaving just claims for consideration at the disposal of her Majesty.

WILLS.

The will, with four codicils, of the late J. M. W. Turner, R.A., has, during the past week, been admitted to probate. The personality was valued at £140,000. There were nine executors appointed; five only have proved, namely: the Rev. H. S. Trimmer, George Jones, Charles Turner, Philip Hardwick, and Henry Harper, Esqrs. His unfinished picture he bequeathed to the trustees of the National Gallery; and, with the exception of two large ones, the whole are to be placed in one or more rooms, to be called "Turner's Gallery," and, if no rooms are so set apart or erected for such purpose within a specified time—which, by a subsequent codicil, he has extended from five to ten years—the pictures, in the meantime remaining in his late residence, Queen Ann-street, Cavendish-square, are then to be sold; and, in such event, he leaves, from the sale thereof, to the Pension Fund of the Royal Academy, £1000; and to the Artists' General Benevolent Fund, the Foundling Hospital, and the London Orphan Fund, £500 each. The legacies and annuities are of small amount. His executors are to erect a monument to his memory in St. Paul's Cathedral, at an expense of £1000. There is also of his property, real and personal, to be converted into funded property, and employed in the erection of an institution to be called "Turner's Gift," for the maintenance and support of decayed male artists of English birth.

The will of the late Vice-Chancellor Parker has been proved by Archibald Smith, Esq., one of the executors. The whole of his property, real and personal, he has bequeathed to the trustees under his marriage settlement for the benefit of his relict; the personality was sworn under £10,000. The will, which is in his own handwriting, bears date 16th Nov. 1851, and is very closely written on one sheet of note paper, occupying the entire four sides, and witnessed by his butler and footman.

The will of the late Mr. Neild, which has lately caused so much excitement, on account of his having left the bulk of his large property to her Majesty, is likely to be disputed, two caveats having been entered on behalf of the next of kin against the proof of the will—it is supposed on the ground of insanity.

The will of John Squire, Esq., banker, Pall-mall, was proved under £60,000 personality.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

In our Journal of last week we recorded the destructive effects of the storm of Sunday, the 4th inst., which concentrated its violence over the county of Worcester. We engrave upon the next page four Views of the localities of the devastation, in the district of country watered by the Teme and tributary brooks, from Tenbury to its entry into the Severn. The loss of sheep stock in the vale of Evesham has been incalculable. In one instance a poor labourer, who had twenty sheep feeding on Powick Ham, lost nineteen head, and many other cases have occurred equally distressing. We are glad to hear that efforts are making by subscription for the relief of the more needy sufferers by the flood.

Nothing could exceed the miserable appearance of Powick Ham, and the scene altogether along the course of the Teme to the Severn. In the hedged numbers of dead sheep were to be seen caught by their fleeces in the bushes, while the owners were sorrowfully searching among the carcasses for their missing property; parties of rustics were busily engaged in rescuing cattle and horses from the spots amid the waste of waters on which they had happily found refuge during the horrors of the night.

The devastation was nowhere more fearful than at Bridges Stone Mill, the residence of Mrs. Dandey, who, with her two daughters and a son, and a female attendant, narrowly escaped with their lives. The house, which stands a short distance from the mill, and contiguous to the brook, received the full force of the flood, which stove in the greater portion of the wall on the west side, rushed through the apartments, and almost immediately afterwards the wall at the opposite extremity gave way, so that a free passage was made for the water through the dwelling. A couple of huge poles, singularly enough, floated into the apartment on the ground floor, and becoming fixed in transverse positions, they proved a firm support for the chimney stack, which was now the mainstay of the standing portion of the place. Nearly all the furniture was swept away; flag stones were forced up from the kitchen and carried to the meadow adjoining; the garden walls were levelled. The mill, from its position, did not sustain very serious injury, but the weir was carried away, and the bridge totally destroyed.

At the locality shown in the third illustration (Storridge) the only case of loss of human life took place: here, close to the stream, stood a stone-built house, two stories high, called "The Bower," inhabited by Sarah Draper, a widow, aged 87, and her son. Both were at home on Saturday night, and, according to the man's account, his mother had been reduced to complete helplessness from fright at the storm. Seeing the impending danger from the upper window (for both had retreated upstairs on the first approach of the water), he called to his mother, who was then on her knees praying, to get upon the bed, to which he at last helped her. At this moment the whole building was hurled down with a tremendous crash, though faint in comparison with the din and roar of the waters rushing furiously past. The poor woman was first swept away, by the rapid current, the roof apparently falling upon her. The man floated 300 yards, and was twice unsuccessful in grasping at the projecting branches of the trees; but just as his strength was becoming exhausted, he was suddenly thrown on dry ground. The stones of the house were scattered over a great space, the whole of the goods being destroyed.

Houses and bridges were swept away; some orchards were totally destroyed, the trees being washed and wrenched out of the earth; great timber trees were laid prostrate, and their huge arms snapped or portcullis. The water searching in about the bases of the banks brought huge landslips into the boiling torrent, and it is amazing to observe the distance that large masses of solid brickwork have been carried. Huge fragments of the parapets of the bridge, and masses of the garden walls at Hopton, the beautiful seat of A. S. Featherstonhaugh, Esq., were removed from their sites dozens of yards.

The stabling, outbuildings, &c., of Hopton, have been injured to a very serious extent. Receiving the full force of the rushing waters, the high wall on the west side of the mansion was instantly driven in, the flood covering the spacious garden, and rushing on to the house, the lower apartments of which were soon filled to the depth of three or four feet. The vent obtained by these means for the im-

THE INUNDATIONS IN WORCESTERSHIRE.



THE INUNDATION AT POWICK HAM.

petuous torrent was however insufficient, and the archway and wall at the north end giving way, the large court-yard in the front, together with the stables, were inundated to the depth of upwards of four feet.

At length the wall on the south side fell with a crash, and the water escaped into the road. One of Mr. Featherstonhaugh's tenants, Mr. Burraston, has lost three acres and a half of beans. Mr. James Essex

lost several sheep, and had a narrow escape with about thirty fine cattle which had to swim for life, but fortunately succeeded in reaching an asylum from the raging waters in a cottager's garden.



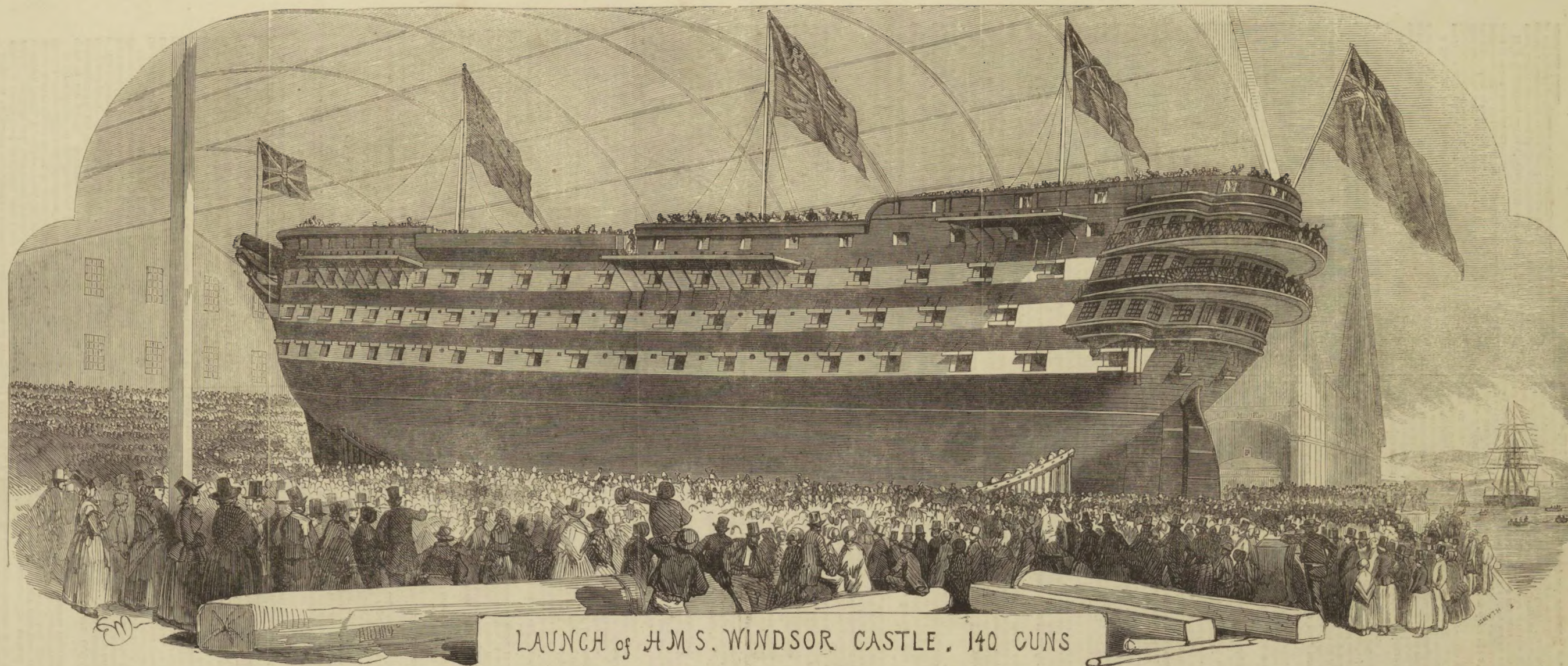
RUINS OF BRIDGE'S STONE-MILL.



RUINS OF "THE BOWER."



THE FLOOD AT HOPTON COURT, THE SEAT OF A. S. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, ESQ.



LAUNCH of H.M.S. WINDSOR CASTLE. 140 GUNS

H.M.S. "WINDSOR CASTLE."

THE Government, anxious to augment our naval forces, some time since issued instructions to the officers of the Royal Dockyard, Pembroke, to launch this leviathan line-of-battle ship, with screw propeller, 140 guns, with all possible despatch. Accordingly, the utmost exertion was made to complete this vessel by Tuesday, the 14th instant, the day officially fixed for the ceremony of the launching. The interest taken in the matter was very great. On Monday week the admissions to the Royal Dockyard numbered 500: carriage, horse, and foot passengers thronged the establishment throughout the day, with great interruption to the public service.

The novelty of the build of the *Windsor Castle*, having originally been constructed for 120 guns, then cut in two by a remarkable and unheard-of process, and lengthened in midships some 23 feet, and the application of the screw-propeller for the first time to so stupendous a war-vessel, have tended to render her an object of peculiar interest. Her midships lengthening was for the purpose of giving the necessary increase of displacement for the engines, boilers, coals, &c., and that abaft for the accommodation of the screw-propeller. The midship lengthening was performed by cutting the ship asunder at "dead flat," or the midship section, and launching the after half, weighing about 2000 tons, the distance of 23 feet. This was done on the 3d of February last, and occupied about an hour and a half. The breadth and depth of the ship remain unaltered. The dimensions of the ship have been furnished us from authority. They are accurately as follows:—

Length from fore part of the figure head to aft part of taffrail, 278 ft. 6 in.
 Ditto between the perpendiculars, 240 ft. 6 in.
 Ditto of keel for tonnage, 201 ft. 11 1-3 in.
 Extreme breadth, 60 ft.
 Breadth for tonnage, 59 ft. 2 in.
 Ditto, moulded, 58 ft. 4 in.
 Depth in hold, 24 ft. 8 in.
 Power of engines, 800 horse. Burthen in tons, 3759 4 94.
 Estimated weight of hull, 2732 tons.
 Ditto, when fully equipped for sea, 5571.
 Number of guns, 140.

The comparative advantages of screw propulsion, as applied to this leviathan vessel, are thus explained in an admirable report by Lieutenant Labrousse, of the French navy:—

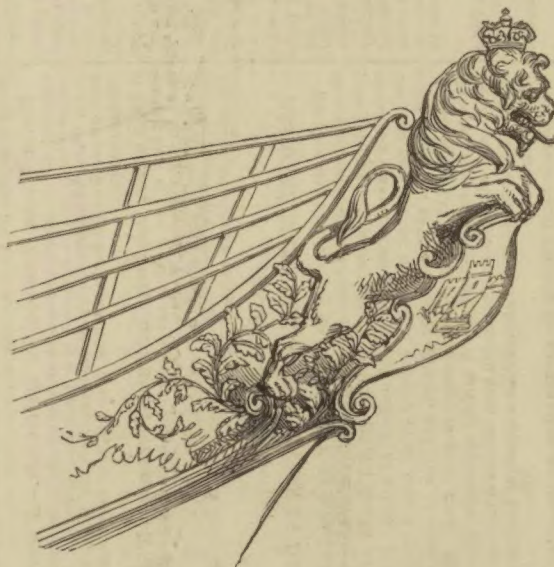


FIGURE-HEAD OF THE "WINDSOR CASTLE."

"The use of the screw as a means of propulsion, is far from diminishing a ship's sailing qualities: it is, on the contrary, capable of adding to the certainties of navigation; and the advantages of its application to ships of the line become so incontestable, and so striking, even to persons not acquainted with steam navigation, that it seems useless to enumerate them. Let us imagine two ships together, one using the screw, and the other sails—what inequality will there not be between these two ships, one of which will be able to move about the other in all directions, with at least the common velocity of a ship (at the time and with the sails in action), without anything being able to alter her moving power, whilst the other can only move in certain directions by the help of sails, which are wholly exposed to the enemy's shot!"

The use of the screw for propelling vessels was first suggested, if not acted on, in France in 1730. The contrivance was that of M. Duguet, and its application was to draw vessels up a river against a current. In 1768, M. Ponceon advocated the use of the *ptero-phore* to move boats instead of the oar. The *ptero-phore* being an instrument composed of a circumvolution of a helical blade about a cylinder, the radii in this blade being at right angles to the axis. In 1785, Joseph Bramah patented the screw, "for the purpose of rowing or forcing ships and other vessels in calm weather." This was followed by other patents—by Mr. Millington, in 1794; by Mr. Shorter, in 1800; in 1815, by Trevethick, of Camborne in Cornwall, for a fixed screw propeller to work in a cylinder; and in 1816, by Millington, for a propeller similar to a smoke-jack, to be placed abaft the rudder, and to be worked by a universal joint. In 1832 Mr. Bennet Woodcroft obtained a patent for a "revolving spiral paddle," and Captain Ericson and Mr. Francis Smith patented their mode in 1836. Since that time the progress of the introduction of the mode of screw propulsion has been rapid, and, as an auxiliary power, it is now applied in numerous ships where speed is required.

In the Great Exhibition were shown sectional models (on the scale of a quarter of an inch to a foot) of the *St. Jean d'Acre*, *Agamemnon*, *Imperieuse*, *Arrogant* (the first frigate built for auxiliary steam power, constructed in 1844, by the advice of the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, then Secretary of the Admiralty), *Tribune*, *Cruizer*, *Archer*, and *Reynard*. These vessels are fitted with screw propellers, and so constructed that their engines, &c., do not interfere with their armament; and all that have been tried have proved themselves to be perfect men-of-war without the aid of steam-power, and have answered remarkably well when working under steam and sails combined.

The *Windsor Castle* will be the largest ship afloat in the whole world, and with the addition of her screw propeller, will form a floating battery of immense power. Her figure-head, which we have engraved, is a noble piece of carving, containing upwards of 70 cubic feet of timber. It was brought to Pembroke Dockyard by the *Widgeon*, which vessel has superseded *Prospero*, a steam-tug, tender to *Saturn* guard-ship. H.M. steam-frigate *Simoen* has also arrived at Milford, with masts and rigging for the *Windsor Castle*.

THE LAUNCH.

On Tuesday afternoon this noble vessel, built from the designs of R. Ab-thell, Esq., master shipwright, the most powerful in armament, and the heaviest tanned ship afloat, was launched from one of the building slips of her Majesty's dockyard at Pembroke.

From an early hour on Tuesday morning conveyances of every description commenced swarming into Pater, the little town which surrounds the dockyard, and every description of passage-boat from Carnarthen, Tenby, Haverford-west, Milford, and other places, lent their aid in conveying to the scene some of the thousands who, throughout the day, thronged the neighbourhood of the dockyard.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the gates of the yard were thrown open to the public. Arrangements had been made inside the slip for accommodating the friends of the dockyard officers with seats placed in front and partly around the vessel; all parts of the docks and quays of the adjacent slips, wherever a sight of the launch could be obtained, were crowded with spectators, among whom were many in the picturesque dresses of the neighbouring towns and villages of South Wales.

At a few minutes past five the *Windsor Castle*, having been named in the usual manner by Lady Pasley, the wife of the Superintendent of the Dockyard, the detaining dog-shore was knocked away, and the mighty man-of-war began to descend to the water; the enthusiasm of the assembled multitude at this time was indescribable, and the course of the vessel towards the water was slower than we remember to have seen it on similar occasions, adding greatly to the interest of the scene. When the vessel reached the end of the slip, and was fairly afloat, she lingered before the mouth of her late abode, giving every person within an excellent bow view of her tremendous proportions.

In the harbour, in front of the ship, lay her Majesty's ships *Simoom*, *Inflexible*, and *Desperate*; the *Sturn* line-of-battle ship; and numerous yachts and smaller boats, gaily dressed with colours.

The *Windsor Castle* will be coppered in the course of a few days.

ARRIVAL OF THE SWEDISH YACHT "SVERIGE" AT COWES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Some months ago an intimation was made to the members of the Royal Yacht Squadron that this Swedish schooner yacht might be expected to visit these waters during the Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta; and, consequently, the noble Commodore, the Earl of Wiltton, and the members of the squadron caused the match for the Royal Yacht Squadron Cup, which, it had been originally fixed, should be sailed for only by yachts of the squadron, to be open to all foreign yachts. This alteration, in the event of the Swedish yacht arriving in time, would have afforded her the opportunity of testing her sailing qualities in comparison with those of the Royal Yacht Squadron. The yacht, it appears, could not be got ready in time to take advantage of the compliment, owing, as we learn, to the delay and difficulty in obtaining appropriate spars.

On Saturday afternoon last, however, the yacht arrived at the rendezvous at Cowes, after a splendid passage of four days, from Gothenburg, during which a speed of 12½ knots per hour was attained. At her departure it was intended to have kept company with a fast-sailing brig, in order to test her sailing qualities, but the superior speed of the yacht obliged the commander to part company.

In general appearance the hull much resembles the celebrated *America*, but we think she is handsomer about the stern, and more after the model of our own yachts. She has some very elegant gilded scroll-work for the arch-board, beneath which is the Royal Swedish and Norwegian arms. There is also scroll-work on her quarters, instead of quarter galleries or badges. She has considerable spring forward, which gives her bows a lofty appearance, and they are more flaring and lengthened than those of the *America*. She has a raking stem, which is surmounted with a shield; and branching therefrom, on either side, in the place of trail boards, are gilded scrolls, which improve her appearance. She is rigged as a fore-and-aft schooner; her lower masts and topmasts are in one, or rather scarfed, and the hoops, consequently, are unsightly. We learned that her spars were only temporary, from the disappointment in obtaining others of more suitable dimensions; and that she has been hurriedly dispatched to this port, where she is to be fitted out after a manner of our own yachts. Her accommodations are also temporarily fitted up; they nevertheless present abundance of space for accommodation and comfort. The height of her after-cabin, in which there are four berths, besides sofas, is about 6 feet; and of her main cabin, or saloon, which extends between the masts, from 7 to 8 feet.

In consequence of Captain Beckman pre-empting to town shortly after his arrival in the yacht, we are prevented, as yet, from furnishing full particulars of her dimensions, &c. We have, however, ascertained that she is about 111 feet overall, Swedish measurement, and about 25 feet in extreme breadth; with a draft of water of 12 feet aft and 7½ feet forward; and we should adjudge her to be about 280 tons (English O.M.). She is a very sightly yacht, and her build altogether does great credit to her constructor, Mr. Andersen, of Stockholm. She belongs to the Swedish Yacht Club or Sailing Society, called the "Stockholms Segel Sällskap," whose long pennant or burgee she carries at the main (being white with a blue border, and S. S. in the centre, surmounted with the Royal crown). Her ensign is the Swedish Union flag, viz., a white oval-tailed. Blue ensign with yellow cross, and the Swedish and Norwegian Union in the upper quarter or canton of the flag; in the centre of the cross is the crown over a wreath. Her canvas is after the American plan, and also laces to the booms.

THE BRAEMAR GATHERING.

This event came off on Thursday and Friday evening, and was honoured, as on former occasions, by the presence of the Sovereign.

The gathering took place, as has been the case for several years back, in the Castle-park.

The cars mustered early in the morning—the five men at Corriemulzie, and the Invercauld men at Mar Castle; the latter were the most numerous body. They carried two handsome white silk banners, emblazoned with the Invercauld arms. The five retainers carried three silk banners, two with the five and one with the Errol arms. Both parties were handsomely attired in dresses of the Duff and Invercauld tartan respectively, with black velvet coats; and their appearance was orderly and imposing.

The clans marched about one o'clock into Castleton, and soon after proceeded to the Castle, where, in the meantime, a very respectable company had assembled.

The games, which consisted mainly of the usual feats of strength, commenced immediately after two o'clock, and at three the Royal party drove in sight, and were greeted with a cordial burst of cheering. The Royal party consisted of her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Royal children, the Duchess of Kent; and accompanied them were the Earl of Malmesbury, the Countess of Dorset and Mrs. Seymour (as Ladies in Waiting), the Princess Hohenlohe, &c. Her Majesty was attired in a Victoria tartan dress, and black velvet polka-trimmed with deep lace; she wore a satin scarf of Royal Stuart tartan, and a plain black silk drawn bonnet. Prince Albert wore a full Highland costume of Royal Stuart tartan. The Royal children were also dressed in tartan. Her Majesty sat on the terrace on two sofas of Farquharson tartan, under which was spread a carpet of the same pattern. Seats of crimson and other cloths were provided for the other visitors.

Her Majesty enjoyed the scene, particularly the dancing, much for about two hours, and left about five o'clock, returning to Balmoral, which was reached ten minutes before six.

CASTS OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS FOR THE NEW CRYSTAL PALACE.—The *Spectator* (Paris paper) communicates the following intelligence on this subject:—Several journals have stated that the ancient monuments at present employed in taking a cast of the great Sphinx in the Egyptian Museum at the Louvre, for the purpose of having it reproduced in bronze, and placed at the four corners of the Port des Arts. There is an error in that statement. Casts are at present being taken, not only of the great Sphinx, but also of a certain number of the finest statues, Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and French; the whole being destined to form part of a great exhibition to be formed in the New Crystal Palace near London. Last year the French Government made an application to the administration of the British Museum for leave to have casts taken of some Greek monuments there, which would have been useful to French artists. The board at once refused. This year the administration acceded to the application made to it by the founders of the Crystal Palace. The English will now soon be enabled to admire the casts of the finest pieces of sculpture in the French museum.

DEATH OF MISS LAURA ADDISON.—Miss Laura Addison, the actress, who arrived a few months since in New York, died suddenly on the morning of the 2d inst., on board the steamer *Oregon*, on her passage from Albany to that city. The deceased had been to Niagara Falls for the benefit of her health.

INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF TEA.—The official returns just issued show that in the month ending the 5th of August, 1852, the quantity of tea entered for home consumption was 4,376,249 lb.; in the like period of 1851, 4,730,126 lb.; and in the month ended the 5th ult., 4,914,700 lb.

A SERIOUS AND DANGEROUS MANUFACTORY OF FORGED PASSPORTS.—has been detected by the police of Prussia. An individual who took up his residence at a German spa (not mentioned) had established a regular office for issuing false papers; at the cheapest price—and this with great skill and success. When arrested, he had upwards of thirty false official seals in his possession, and his imitation of the signatures of police and diplomatic agents are said to have been perfect.

H. P. GAMBLING.—The Central Office of Inland Revenue in Broad-street having ascertained that it is the intention of private parties again to set on foot the amount of duty before it reaches the office, and to take such steps as will prevent a repetition of the same, which was carried on to a great extent last season.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The two screw steam-frigates, *Dawntless*, Captain Halsted, and *Highflyer*, Captain Watson, ordered to be ready for sea at Spithead, on Wednesday, will proceed at once to Jamaica, there to await the arrival of Vice-Admiral Sir G. F. Seymour, the Commander-in-Chief of the West Indies.

THE ROYAL YACHT PROMOTIONS.—The annual promotions of officers of the Royal yacht, *Victoria* and *Albert*, have been officially made, and include the Hon. Frederick Curzon, third son of Earl Howe, to the rank of commander; Viscount Gifford, eldest son of Earl Clanwilliam; and Lord Gilbert N. Grosvenor, second surviving son of the Marquis of Westminster, to the rank of lieutenant.

TESTIMONIAL TO LORD F. FITZCLARENCE, G.C.H.—Lieutenant-General Lord F. Fitzclarence, G.C.H., the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, received a very handsome piece of silver candelabra from the inhabitants of Portsmouth on Monday afternoon, as a testimonial of their esteem for his conduct during his command of the garrison and district. The presentation took place at the Portland Hotel, Southsea, by the Mayor, B. Bramble Esq., in the presence of a large number of subscribers and other friends of his Lordship. The following inscription was on the base of the piece: "Presented to Lieutenant-General Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, G.C.H., in the mayoralty of B. Bramble Esq., by inhabitants of the borough of Portsmouth and vicinity, in grateful remembrance of the many local improvements effected by him during a five years' residence in this garrison as lieutenant-governor, and commander of the south western district; for his uniform support of the civil authority, and his urbanity and unostentatious charity." His Lordship duly thanked the mayor and subscribers for this mark of esteem; and at half-past four o'clock a drawing of a column being erected on Southsea Common in remembrance of his Lordship's connexion with the borough was also presented by the Mayor, who delivered an appropriate address on the occasion. His Lordship again returned thanks in a speech indicative of deep feeling.

LAUNCH OF A FIFTY-GUN STEAM-FRIGATE.—On Wednesday the *Imperieuse*, commenced November 23, 1850, was launched at Woolwich, in the presence of Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence and other naval officers, and named by Lady Walker. The following are the dimensions of the *Imperieuse*, which has the figure-head of an arrogant woman:—Length from the fore part of the figure-head to the afterside of the mainmast, 245 feet; length between the perpendiculars, 212 feet; length on the upper deck, 215 feet 7½ inches; length of the keel for tonnage, 180 feet 11 inches; breadth, extreme, 50 feet 10½ inches; breadth for tonnage, 49 feet 6½ inches; breadth moulded, 48 feet 8½ inches; depth in hold, 16 feet 8½ inches. Burthen in tons, 2,357.68 91; burthen in tons, new measurement, 1,662.80; burthen in tons of the engine-room, 542.73; register tonnage, 1,120.07. The *Imperieuse* was towed to Woolwich, to be fitted with her screw-propeller engines of 350-horse power, by John Penn and Son.

THE ARSENAL VOLUNTEERS.—It is strongly rumoured that the men employed in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, somewhere about 1500, will be enrolled into a corps, to be called the Royal Arsenal Volunteers Corps, and the drill to be similar to the Dockyard Brigade—an hour of an evening after the working hours, and the same rate of pay.

LAUNCH OF A SPANISH WAR STEAMER FOR THE DEFENCE OF CUBA.—On Saturday morning last a splendid steam-ship, built by order of the Spanish Government, and intended for the defence of Cuba, was launched from the building-yard of Mr. John Thompson, of Rotherhithe, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The vessel received the name of *El Principe*. In six weeks she will be ready for sea.

CONDEMNED STORES.—The Master-General and Board of Ordnance, having made an official tour of inspection round the Channel Islands to see the efficiency of the arsenals of the coast, have condemned nearly 1000 guns as unfit for Government service, and ordered them to be sent by the *Queen*, ill-fitted, to the Royal Arsenal as condemned stores, and to be replaced by new ones.

TROOPS IN THE COLONIES.—The amount of her Majesty's regular troops employed in the Colonies in 1847-8 was 1655 officers and 39,591 non-commissioned officers and men. The cost for pay was £1,404,854. In 1848-9 the amount was 1712 officers and 39,400 non-commissioned officers and men. The cost for pay was £1,490,769; while in 1849-50 the amount was 1675 officers and 38,752 non-commissioned officers and men; and the cost of pay was £1,329,656.

CLARKSON'S LIFE-BOAT.—A trial of Clarkson's life-boat took place at Dover, on Tuesday last, before Captain Hall, R.N., and Montague Gore, Esq., which, as far as it went, proved most satisfactory. The boat was thrown from the pier into the sea, bottom upwards, and immediately righted itself, at the same time delivering itself of water; and in every subsequent trial proved its efficiency.

DEATH OF THE LAST SURVIVOR OF KEPPEL'S ACTION.—Mr. D. F. Hanselman, of Devonport, died on the 3d inst., aged 92: he was supposed to be the last survivor of Keppel's action. He was also at the celebrated relief of Gibraltar, at the taking of St. Eustasia and other West India islands in the *Monarch*, which led the van in Rodney's action; in the skirmish with the French fleet off Plymouth, and in the *Royal George*, on the 29th May and 1st of June—for the two latter of which he had the medal with two bars.

THE KEYHAM DOCKS.—These works are proceeding towards completion very steadily. The lock basin has been completed since August, 1851, and is capable of receiving vessels at any time. It has been announced that the dock were to be formally opened during the present autumn, by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, but no day has yet been fixed upon for the ceremonial.

POWDER MAGAZINE AT STONEHOUSE.—Some considerable anxiety has been occasioned among the inhabitants of Stonehouse of late, on finding that a building, the erecting of which has just been completed on land adjoining the Marine Barracks, is to be used as, and is built for, a powder magazine. A memorial is in course of signature on the subject, and it will be presented in the proper quarter in a few days.

MILITIA.—The enrolment of volunteers for the new militia force appears, on the whole, to proceed satisfactorily, and, except in some few districts, there are little apprehensions entertained that a resort to the ballot will be necessary. In Manchester and its neighbourhood the number of volunteers has as yet fallen very short of that which is required.

The Queen has appointed Arthur Kennedy, Esq., now Governor of her Majesty's Settlements in the river Gambia, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the colony of Sierra Leone and its dependant places. Her Majesty has also appointed Major Luke Smyth O'Connor to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over her Majesty's Settlements in the river Gambia and their dependant places.

THE LOBOS ISLANDS.—We are authorised to state, for the information of the public, that two ships of war have been sent by the Peruvian Government to defend the island of Lobos Atenera, and that a small military force has likewise been permanently stationed there. The whole of the Peruvian Islands have been formally annexed to the adjacent provinces of the mainland, and placed under the control of the respective authorities. The Lobos Islands being included in the number; and the vessels under command with the Peruvian Government are now allowed to load guano at those islands, for which purpose one vessel has been already despatched. By a law of the 21st of the new laws of commerce it is provided that vessels which anchor in the roadsteads of the islands belonging to the Republic shall be confiscated; and in addition, guano is found on board the masters and crews shall be delivered over to the ordinary tribunals, and shall be tried as guilty of robbery, which law will doubtless be put in force in the event of the capture of any vessel loading guano at Lobos Atenera.

ADVICES FROM TAHITI, in the Pacific Ocean, to the middle of May, state that the English P.O. steamers had been forbidden to pass until they had formally acknowledged the French Protectorate Government as their head, and promised to submit themselves to its control. The Rev. Mr. Colholm, employed by the London Missionary Society, had been prohibited from preaching out of a certain district under pain of arrest and banishment. No native was allowed to preach without first obtaining the sanction of the Government.

AURIFEROUS EARTH is said to have been found in some boxes of Hovart Town (Van Diemen's Land) potatoes which were landed lately at San Francisco, in California; two ounces of "dust" were washed out from the imported diggings.

CIVILISATION OF THE FAR WEST.—A little girl, named Caroline Ferris, at Whitbyville, Westchester county, N.Y., when returning from school, was beset by a couple of boys, one of whom, named McNeil, aged about twelve years, knocked her down, filled her mouth and eyes with dust, and concluded his brutal treatment by twisting a dead snake about her neck. She succeeded in reaching home, but died soon after. A coroner's jury returned a verdict that the child came to her death by the injuries inflicted by the boys, and the fright produced by twisting the serpent about her.

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY.—The Constantinople journals state that five sharp shocks of an earthquake took place on the 26th ult. at Ramazan, and in the adjacent villages. They commenced a little before sunset, and each lasted about sixteen seconds. In the town several houses and buildings were thrown down, and a great number were damaged. Three women were killed, and seven men were injured. In the villages near, the damage done amongst houses and buildings was still greater, and seventeen persons were killed and thirty-six hurt.

THE FRENCH GENERAL YUSUF arrived ten days ago at the city of Algiers, from Bidah, in the interior of Algeria, in an elegant carriage drawn by two dromedaries. These animals had a few days before made a journey from Midah to Boghar, of 240 kilometres (nearly 150 miles English) in twenty-four hours. The General drove them from Bidah at the rate of about sixteen kilometres (about ten miles) the hour, although they were not well accustomed to drawing, and the harness was inconvenient to them. They are very docile. It is believed that in the course of a short time it will be possible so to train dromedaries as to make them of great utility to the colonists, and to send expeditions into the desert.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

The chancel of Stradishall Church having been very much out of repair, Lady Harland, with her usual liberality, has restored it at her own expense.

The Bishop of Limerick and the Dean of Limerick have subscribed £20 each to repair the cathedral in that city.

The Lord Bishop of Sierra Leone, Dr. Vidal, delivered his last discourse at Bow Church on Sunday last, preparatory to departure for his new mission. His Grace, with his accustomed liberality, advocated the cause of the United Kingdom Benevolent Fund, and the result was a handsome contribution at the close of the discourse.

It is stated that the Rev. Dr. Warneford has recently transferred £5000 to Joshua Watson, Esq., Sir Robert H. Inglis, Bart., and Joseph Sewell, Esq., with directions for the income of such sum to be appropriated for the purposes of "The Society for promoting the Employment of additional Curates in populous Places," preference at all times being given to applications of incumbents (*ceteris paribus*) who shall be resident within that part only of the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, which heretofore comprised the diocese of Gloucester.

The Rev. Robert Eden, M.A., F.S.A., vicar of North Walsham, Norfolk, and chaplain to the Lord Bishop of Norwich, has been elected to the place and dignity of an Honorary Canon in the cathedral church of Norwich, with a stall annexed. Patron, the Bishop of Norwich.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The following preferments and appointments have recently been made:—*Canonry*: The Rev. J. H. Pinder, to Wells Cathedral. *Honorary Canonry*: The Rev. R. Eden, to the Cathedral Church of Norwich. *Chancellorship*: The Rev. J. W. Rector, rector of Llanbunan, to be Chancellor of the diocese of Bangor. *Rectories*: The Rev. R. Mann, to Long Wharton, Leicestershire; the Rev. T. Clarkson, to Chillingdon, Kent; the Rev. D. Winstowe, to All Saints', Wainfleet, Lincolnshire; the Rev. T. P. Parren, to Chellesworth, Suffolk; the Rev. F. Colles, to Kinsworthy, Hants. *Vicars*: The Rev. Mr. Cleather to Aidsborne, Wilt; the Rev. E. P. Cooper, to Dacey Parva, Leicestershire. The Rev. W. Harvey, M.A., to Waltham, Sussex. The Rev. Dr. J. M. Arnold, M.A., F.R.S., has been elected chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received testimonials of esteem and regard:—The Rev. Richard Stephens, vicar of Belgrave cum Birstall, from a few parishioners; the Rev. W. Y. Nutt, on resigning the curacy of Barrow, from the inhabitants; the Rev. S. C. Mason, senior curate of Sherborne, from the teachers and children of the Sunday school; the Rev. J. Lakes, minister of St. James's, St. Peter's Post, Guernsey, from the congregation; the Rev. K. F. Putney, from the parishioners of Neithbury; the Rev. Samuel Sandberg, from the parishioners of Kootinging; the Rev. F. Thompson, incumbent of St. Giles, Darham, from the Rev. F. C. Albert Lodge of Odd Fellows in that city; the Rev. John Wils, curate of Swaffham Budeck, from the inhabitants, on his promotion; the Rev. W. C. L. Assinall, from the parishioners of Odbury, Birmingham, on his promotion; the Rev. James Bonwell, incumbent of St. Philip's, Stepney, from his congregation; the Rev. W. G. Tucker, from the congregation of the church of St. Mary, Tullamore, in the diocese of Toronto.

VISIT OF ANOTHER AMERICAN BISHOP.—The Right Rev. Dr. Whittingham, Bishop of Maryland, has arrived in England, and has joined the Bishops of Western New York and Michigan at Leeds.

GAWSWORTH CHURCH.—In order to assist in raising the funds necessary for the repair of Gawsorth Church, the Earl of Harrington last week threw open the gardens of Evasion Castle to the public by the sale of tickets, an expedient which realised £147 8s. In the afternoon the noble Earl entertained at dinner 150 of his Gawsorth tenants.

NEW CHURCH AT MOUNT PELTON, HALIFAX.—A church, in the decorated style of architecture, is to be immediately erected by voluntary subscription in the village of Mount Pelton, near Halifax. Mrs. Lancashire and Mrs. Brooke, of Birk Hall, have liberally presented an eligible site and £400 towards this object. Most of the principal church families in and about Halifax are to be found in the list of contributors.

NORTH WALES THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.—A movement is in contemplation by the clergy of the Established Church in the principality, which has for its object the establishment of a Theological College or Institution in North Wales. The want of such a college to send forth young men duly qualified for the Welsh ministry has long been felt, and never more than at the present juncture.

SALE OF THE OLD FREE CHURCH AT INVERNESS.—It is stated that the purchase of this building has been all but completed by Royal Jan Cunningham, Esq., the African traveller. It is, we believe, intended to be converted into a museum or depository for the curiosities, &c., collected by Mr. Cunningham in the course of his excursion through the African deserts and wilds of Caffraria. The price agreed upon is said to be £300.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—INSTRUCTION IN DRAWING.

Circulars have been issued by the Committee of Privy Council for Education to the inspectors of National Schools, directing them to aid, by every means in their power, the system proposed by the Department of Practical Art for causing elementary drawing to become a part of national education. It is intended to teach the very simplest elements of drawing in all schools willing to bear a small proportion of the necessary expense, and then to admit the qualified scholars to study in a central drawing-school in every town. The importance of the new scheme thus set on foot will be fully appreciated, when it is remembered that, until the public ignorance in such matters is removed, no extensive or successful effort can be made to raise the standard of taste in design among our manufacturers.

The Department of Practical Art has taken up the subject. Having for some time past had numerous applications made to it to establish elementary drawing schools throughout the country, the department has had the following questions appertaining to the matter prepared and recently issued:—

To enable the Board of Trade to consider, with reference to claims from other places, the application dated the — day of —, from —, for assistance in forming an elementary drawing school, it is necessary that replies to the following inquiries be returned to the secretary of this department:—

1. What public schools for either sex already exist in — which make any charge whatever for instruction? [Underline those schools where drawing of any kind is taught.]
2. State the name of every school in — the managers of which would be willing to accept the advantage of instruction from a drawing master appointed by the Board of Trade, who should give in that school an hour's lesson publicly, at least once a week, to all the scholars; for which instruction those managers would be willing to pay to such master a sum of at least £5 a year.
3. Are the committee of management of the proposed drawing school of opinion that they would be able to form a class for teaching drawing to students occupying a higher position in society than artisans, and who would pay at least one shilling a week?
4. Are the committee of management of opinion that they would be able to obtain subscribers, say of £1 and upwards a year, who might have the privilege of presenting students to the proposed school, to pay a lower fee than 6d. a week for the artisan class, and a lower fee than 1s. for the general class?
5. Would the committee of management for only encouraging the teaching of the simplest elements of drawing in the local public schools, be willing that every student under sixteen years of age, before admittance to the proposed drawing-school, should be required to possess the ability to draw the letters A O S in full out line, of the height of twelve inches?

Marlborough House, Pall-mall, London, 1852. W. R. DEVEREUX, Secretary.

NEW GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.—The Committee of Council on Education have appointed the following gentlemen to be her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools:—The Rev. K. F. Merditt, M.A., rector of East Challow, Somerset, and vicar of Halstoke, Dorset; the Rev. Robert Lunt, M.A., incumbent of St. Margaret's, Yalding, Kent; the Rev. John G. C. Fussell, B.A., incumbent of Chantry, near Frome; the Rev. William Birley, M.A., incumbent of Chorley, near Manchester; and the Rev. Thomas Wilkinson, M.A., vicar of Stanwix, Cumberland.

SUBTERRANEAN LINE OF ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN LONDON AND DOVER. IN CONNECTION WITH THE SUBMARINE CABLE.—In a few weeks will be completed a second line of electric communication, in connexion with the Continental telegraph, between Dover and the metropolis. It has been promoted by the European Telegraph Company, and one of its peculiar novelties is that it is being laid down along the old coach road, through Delford, Greenwich, Shooter's Hill, Dartford, Gravesend, Strood, Rochester, Chatham, Sittingbourne, Faversham, Canterbury, &c., to Dover. Some 250 or 300 workmen are now actively employed day and night on the works. The copper wires, six in number, are encased in gutta serena; and being deposited in a kind of trough, constructed of galvanised timber, it is laid in a trench dug in the road, a foot and a half from the surface. Test boxes, by which the wires are proved, are erected every mile. A mile and a half is completed every day. According to present arrangements, the six wires will be so apportioned—two to Paris, two to Brussels, and two for the Mediterranean route. The telegraph is completed as far as Chatham from Cornhill.

NEW PALACE AT BALMORAL.—It has been determined to build a new palace for the Queen at Balmoral, on the site between the river and the present castle, from the south, and is estimated to cost from £80,000 to £100,000. The architect will be modern, and will combine the ornamental with the useful. A new bridge is to be thrown across the Dee; and the public road which now leads through the forest of Balmoral is to be shut up, and a better road provided along the south bank of the river. The old palace is to be entirely removed. The new palace is already started but.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The King and Queen of Sweden and Norway arrived at Basle on the 2d inst., having passed through Zurich, Schaffhausen, Interlaken, Lucerne, and Berne. Their Majesties received at Basle a visit from the Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden. Their Majesties left on the 4th inst. for Mannheim, where they are to proceed to visit King Louis of Bavaria at Wilhelmshöhe.

Mr. G. C. Glyn, who has been, since 1846, chairman of the board of directors of the London and North-Western Railway Company, has resigned that office, in consequence of recent delicacy of health. He, however, has consented to act until his successor is appointed.

There were 10,205,787 eggs imported into this country in the month ending the 5th ult.

Among the passengers who embarked at Portsmouth last week, on board the *Devonshire* Indiaman, for conveyance to Calcutta, were Father Mathew, the noted teetotaler, and five other Roman Catholic priests. Their business in India, it is reported, the foundation of a Romish school at Hyderabad.

Monday was the eve of the Jewish New Year 5613, which was kept strictly for two days, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Two persons who had been residing at Cross-y-Ceillog, South Wales, were lately poisoned by eating some fungi of a highly deleterious character, which were mixed with mushrooms they had crested for their supper.

The Scottish papers mention the recovery of Mr. Macaulay from his recent illness, and speak hopefully of his being able to meet the electors of Edinburgh at no distant day.

The official statistics of the French departments prove that the average duration of human life is from six to eight years longer in the districts which are the most advanced in respect to education. In the like manner the inhabitants are most healthy in those departments where agriculture is most improved, manufactures most extended, and commerce most active.

The very large quantity of 1100 tons weight of copper ore has been brought by a vessel from Adelaide, Australia, consigned to order.

On Sunday morning, between eleven and twelve o'clock, a boat containing four men in the employ respectively of Mr. Freeman and Mr. Tiddeman, wharf-gers, of Earl-street, Blackfriars, was capsized opposite Limehouse, and three of them were unfortunately drowned.

Some of the Madrid journals have for some time past been demanding the suppression of bull-fights. In opposition to them, a petition, praying the Queen to establish a school of tauromachia, has been signed by several thousand persons, and presented to her Majesty by the Duke de Veragua.

The Danish war-ship *Mercur* is at present in Sunderland Dock, taking in wire-rope from Messrs. Newall and Co., of Gateshead, for the submarine telegraph to connect Copenhagen with the mainland of Denmark.

It is understood that Mr. Page, the Government architect, contemplates the employment of electricity in lighting up the suspension bridge now in progress at Cheam—four elegant towers intended to receive the lamps appearing in the design.

The Order of the Black Eagle has been presented by the King of Prussia to the Duke of Cambridge.

A vessel just arrived from Galway has brought an entire cargo of marble, amounting to 160 tons weight, the produce of that part of the sister island; and another vessel arrived in the river on the same day from Arklow, brought 100 tons weight of pyrites, the produce of that district of Ireland.

A field of corn of seven acres was last week cut at Daisy Knoll Farm, near Middlebury, belonging to Mr. Isaac Sharp, which yielded the large crop of 100 bushels an acre.

There were between two and three hundred whales captured at Lerwick, in Scotland, last week, and the blubber sold at an average of thirteen pounds per ton.

The two last West India mail steamers have brought to England a large quantity of copper ore from the mines recently discovered in Jamaica.

The deliveries of tea in London last week were 609,480 lbs.

The Cork Exhibition was brought to a close on Saturday last with a grand musical festival and promenade.

On Monday, a man named Pitman, aged 60, while conducting a water cart on the High-street, Stoke Newington, was thrown from his seat upon his head and killed on the spot.

A duel, with pistols, took place a few days ago in the Bois de Vincennes near Paris, between two sub-officers, named Loubet and Ader. Loubet received his adversary's ball in the region of the heart, and died instantaneously. Ader has been arrested.

A great scarcity of silver is felt in most parts of the country, and in consequence of the sums taken by emigrants, the demands on the part of some of the banks in the north have been larger than could be met by the supplies from the Mint.

Teignmouth, one of the ports on the line of the South Devon Railway, has been constituted by the Commissioners of the Customs an "independent port," with the same bonding privileges usually allowed to ports of corresponding amount of trade.

The Dudley Gallery of Pictures and Sculpture, containing the celebrated statue of the Greek Slave, by Hiram Power, also a Venus by Canova, is still open to the public (free), at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, without orders or cards, every day but Mondays. Visitors are only required to write their names in a book kept for that purpose.

The opening of the Liverpool exhibition of model paintings and sculpture took place on Tuesday.

Mr. David Rees of Cemenrig, in Wales, was on Saturday evening last struck dead by lightning, while standing with his grandson, a boy about ten years of age, at his own door during the prevalence of a awful thunder storm. The child, who was also struck to the earth by the electric fluid, has since perfectly recovered.

The last advices from Central America state that the expedition of Fore against the State of Ecuador was entirely broken up, the Guilan part of his force having deserted, with the remainder *Restaurador*. Some reports state that was likely he would be taken prisoner; others again say that he will endeavour to renew his attempt.

On Tuesday morning Mr. William Milward, formerly in the army, and lately residing at 45, James-street, Manchester square, was found dead in bed by his servant, upon her going to call him. He retired to bed at eight o'clock the previous night in his usual good health.

On Monday morning Mrs. Hope Pritchard was found insensible in her apartments, 6, Northumberland-street, New-road, and expired before medical aid could arrive.

A dispatch was forwarded by electric telegraph from Vienna, at half-past two o'clock p.m. on Monday, and arrived in London at half-past five o'clock on the same day—from Vienna to London in three hours!

There is living at Waterford an old lady in her 112th year. She recently received extreme unction, but unexpectedly rallied again, and recovered her usual health. Last year she went to London to see the Great Exhibition.

Mr. Cort Henry Marquard, late superintendent of the K division of police, while under medical treatment, was allowed by mistake on Sunday a wine-glass full of an emetic instead of his medicine, and died in a few hours afterwards.

Mr. Lowe, the new member for the borough of Kidderminster, was entertained by his constituents and friends at a public dinner on Tuesday evening last.

A few nights ago a young female was discovered under the dark arches of the Adelphi, in the last stage of illness and destitution. She was promptly conveyed to St. Martin's Workhouse, where she soon afterwards expired.

On Thursday morning a fire occurred at the Holborn Casino stores, which destroyed a large amount of property that was not insured.

Sheridan Knowles, the well-known dramatic author, was some time ago captivated by immersion by the Rev. Dr. Innes, of Edinburgh, and has since connected himself with the Baptist Church in Bloomsbury.

On Wednesday evening, as George Barnwall, aged fifty, was painting the third floor windows at 3, Montague-street, Montague-square, he fell into the street, the height of thirty feet, fracturing his skull, and severely injuring his spine. There is not the faintest hope of his recovery.

Mary Rasbury, aged thirty-five years, who resided at No. 9, Shipcount, Horseferry-road, Westminster, was buried to death on Wednesday morning, in consequence of her clothes having taken fire from a lighted candle with which she came in contact, while lighting her pipe, and in a state of intoxication.

Mr. Thompson, the Comedian, who had been one of the regular corps at the Manchester Theatre Royal, in the opening night of the new edifice, died suddenly from dissection of the heart.

As some workmen were making excavations in Bath last Saturday, they discovered several massive stone coffins of extreme antiquity, containing rare coins, and bones, in some nearly the whole skeleton. The workmen, in their eagerness to discover more coins, unfortunately broke the coffins, but one of two still remain at some depth below the surface.

CHESS.

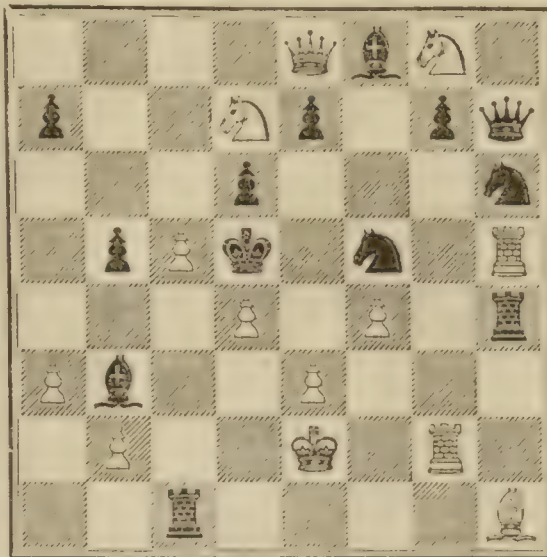
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. R. of Glasgow, G. D. AN ANGRY SUBSCRIBER, and others, complain that Mr. Deane's last problem is "like too many of his former compositions" is inaccurate. They remark that White cannot possibly be mated in four moves if Black play for his first move K Kt to Q 4th, or even if, after playing the move Mr. Deane recommends of 1 Q Kt takes K, Black take the Q Pawn with his Kt. STEVENSON: You have not considered the difficulty we pointed out. Black plays 3 Q to B sq 3 Q to K Bth and where is the Mate? DISCUSS: A SUBSCRIBER: "Does the puzzle in Paul Loquin's Problem thus:—White: K at K B 4th, Q at Q B 2d, and Kt at Q B 3d. Black: K at Q 5th; and then White in two moves. Try Steele's puzzle: it is quite correct." TRY Steele's puzzle: it is quite correct. R. B. M.—Your edition of No. 417 is not much more satisfactory than the author's own. F. R. S.—The second edition of Ponziani's work (Molena, 1783) is the most valuable. The edition of 1782 may be procured for a few shillings on the Continent. B. W. F.—It was published in the July number of the *Chess Player's Chronicle*. S. W. K. HULL.—The game is the same as the last, and I repeat it on a new board. We shall be glad to know the day appointed for the assembling of the York Chess Association as soon as possible. I. W. LIVERPOOL.—A private communication has been forwarded. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 413 by Q. P. L. E. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 33, by Agassiz, Keno, Badger, Jady, J. M. of Sherburn, George of Wilby, Robin H. of London, Thos. of Atherton, D. of W. SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Ernest, Vela, Sanch, Dorevov, Subiterna, Mauro, R. v. W. B. are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 451.

By E. B. C., of Princeton, United States.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

The following admirable little game was lately played between Mr. BUCKLE, an amateur of the first rank among European players, and Mr. SHULDER, a rising celebrity from Germany.

(Gioco Piano.)

BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	17. P to K B 4th	P takes P
2. Kt to K B 3d	Kt to Q B 3d	18. R takes P	Q to her Kt
3. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th	19. Kt to K R 5th (e)	Q Kt to Kt sq
4. Kt to Q B 3d (a)	Kt to K B 3d	20. K Kt to K Kt 6th	R to K R 2d
5. P to Q 3d	P to Q 3d	21. P to Q R 5th	B to Q B 2d
6. Castles	P to K R 3d	22. P to Q B 3d	P takes P
7. Kt to K 2d	Kt to Q R 4th (b)	23. B takes P	P to K 4th
8. B to Q Kt 3d	P to Q Kt 4th	24. R to K B 5th (f)	Q R to Kt sq
9. Kt to K Kt 3d	B to Q Kt 3d	25. Q to K K 4th (g)	Q to K 3d (h)
10. K to R sq	P to Q B 4th	26. Kt takes K (ch)	Kt takes Kt (i)
11. B to Q 2d	Kt to O B 3d	27. R takes P (k)	Q takes R (l)
12. P to Q R 4th	P to Q K 5th	28. Q R to d (m)	Kt takes K P
13. B to Q B 4th (c)	Kt to K 2d	29. K takes P	Q takes R
14. Kt to K R 4th	B to K Kt 5th (d)	30. Kt to K 4th	
15. P to K B 3d	B to K 3d	31. B takes Q	
16. B takes B	P takes B		

(a) The present variation in the "Gioco Piano" opening has not received much attention at the hands of Chess authors. It may be adopted, we believe, in perfect safety; and now that the eminent players springing from the usual move of 4. P to Q B 3d have taken a new and original line, 4. Kt to Q B 3d presents an agreeable variety.

(b) If played for the express purpose of taking the adverse King's Bishop, this move is unobjectionable, but as White does not exchange pawns, we are somewhat puzzled to account for his placing the Kt in such a position.

(c) We do not see that Mr. Buckle derives any more advantage from the Bishop being posted here than from his standing at Q R 3d; and if so, this must be considered "a lost time." If we mistake not, he must have played the Kt to K R 4th at once. For suppose—

BLACK. WHITE.
13. Kt to K R 4th Kt takes P (d) 14. B takes K P (ch) K takes B
(If he play the King's B sq or K 2d Black may check with his Kt at K Kt 6th, &c.)
15. Q to K R 5th (ch) K to K sq (e) 16. P takes Kt
And Black has much the advantage.

(d) *Quo bono?*
(e) Threatening the young player may be tried, to take the Kt with his Rook (for nothing); since, if White capture his Pawn in return, he would lose his Queen.
(f) The game now increases in animation move by move until it attains a climax of remarkable interest and beauty.
(g) This move can evidently be made with impunity.
(h) Running into the lion's mouth! He should rather have played his Q to K B 2d, we believe.
(i) If he had taken with the Kt Pawn, Black would have captured the K's Pawn with his Rook even at a more disadvantageously.
(j) Very well so, indeed.
(k) This was a fatal error. He should have taken the Queen with his Kt, although, even in this case, Black would have had the better game.
(l) A most risky coup de repos, almost compelling White to immolate himself. After this, the game is hopeless.

CHESS IN SCOTLAND.

Mr. STANTON gives the odds of the Pawn and two moves to the Rev. J. DONALDSON ("Delta").

(Remove Black's K B Pawn from the Board.)

WHITE ("Delta.")	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE ("Delta.")	BLACK (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3d	17. P to Q Kt 3d	B to Q R 6th (ch)
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3d	18. P to B 2d	K R to K sq
3. B to Q 3d	P to Q B 4th	19. P takes Q P	P to Q 4th
4. P to K 5th	P to K Kt 3d	20. Q to K sq	P takes Kt
5. P to K R 4th	P takes Q P	21. P to Q Kt 4th	Kt to Q 2d
6. P to K B 4th (a)	K to K 2d	22. P to Q 5th	Q to Q R 5th (ch)
7. P to K B 5th	P to K Kt 4th	23. K to Kt sq	Kt to Q B 4th (d)
8. P to K R 6th	Q to her K 4th (ch)	24. B to Q B 3d	Kt to Q 6th
9. B to Q 2d	Q to her K 3d	25. Q to Q 2d	B takes Q Kt P
10. Kt to Q R 3d	Kt to K B 4th	26. K takes B	Kt takes B
11. Kt to Q B 4th	Kt to Q B 3d	27. Kt to K 2d	Kt to Q 6th
12. Q to K 3d (b)	K to Q sq	28. Kt to Q B 3d	Q to Q R 6th
13. B takes K (ch)	P takes B	29. K to R sq	P to Q Kt 4th
14. Q to K 2d (c)	P to Q Kt 5th	30. Kt to K R 5th	P to Q Kt 5th
15. Castles	P to Q Kt 3d	31. Kt to Q K 4th	Q to Q K 4th
16. P to Q B 3d	B to Q R 3d	32. R takes K B P	Q takes Q P

And White surrenders.

(a) White plays this opening in the most approved way, and obtains a capital attack; but, as we have before said, when receiving these odds, the difficulty is not to gain an attack, but to maintain it; and it is on this account that so few players ever fairly surmount the Pawn and two moves.
(b) This is not well judged; since it enables Black to carry his Queen across to the K side.
(c) Taking the Pawn would have been very perilous; but we should have preferred even the risk to retaining an attack.
(d) The winning move, play what White will.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 753.—Curious Problem, composed by the ingenious E. A. M. of India.
White: K at K B 4th, Q at K Kt 5th, B at Q R 3d, K at K 4th and Q B 5th; P at K 3d and Q 4th.
Black: K at K 2d, R at K Kt 3d and K B 2d, B at Q Kt 2d, Kt at K Kt sq, P at K B 4th.

Whatever party plays first can make his adversary in two moves, or compel his adversary to mate him in two moves.

No. 754.—By C. M. INGLEBY, Esq.
White: K at K sq, Q at K Kt 4th, B at K B 7th.
Black: K at K R sq, R at K Kt 2d, and K B 4th, B at Q 5th.
White to play, and mate in six moves.

No. 755.—By a CAMBRIDGE UNDERGRADUATE.
White: K at B 4th, Q at Q Kt 4th, Kt at K 5th, P at K 3d and K Kt 3d.
Black: K at Q 4th.
White to play, and mate in three moves.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT BELFAST.—EXCURSION TO THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE meeting of the British Association having been brought to a conclusion on Wednesday week, the excursions to the objects of interest in the neighbourhood took place on the following day. The wonderful scenery at the Giant's Causeway, an Engraving of which we gave last week was the main object of attraction to the visitors. The Harbour Commissioners of Belfast having kindly placed at the disposal of the Association the *Stork* steam-vessel, about one hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen assembled on board at seven o'clock on Thursday morning, and shortly after the vessel, gallily dressed in her colours, and saluted from the several vessels in the harbour, and from a battery on Queen's Island, proceeded on her way down the harbour to Portrush, the nearest port to the Causeway. The various points of interest along the road, including Carrickfergus and Chichester Castles; Garron Point, the seat of the Marquis of Londonderry; the beautiful town of Glenarm; the bold and precipitous cliffs at Fairhead; the Gray Man's Path, formed by a fallen basalt column bridging over a vast fissure in the rocks; Carrick-a-Rède, famous for the swinging rope bridge; the treacherous "Maidens;" Rathlin Island, about five miles from the coast, where the people speak of Ireland as a foreign country, and have but little communication with it; and last, but not least, the famous Dunluce Castle. The party took different routes, and proceeded to the examination of the various points of interest in the Causeway. This remarkable production of nature consists of three distinct "moles," known as the Great, Middle, and Little Causeway, which lie near each other, and the extremities of which are lost in the sea. The number of basaltic pillars forming the three causeways has been estimated at 40,000, varying in diameter from 15 to 26 inches. Each pillar or column is formed of several distinct joints, closely articulated into each other, the convex end of the one joint fitting accurately into the concave of the next. The greatest length of any of the pillars above the ground is in a range of columns which, from their peculiar form, has been called the "Giant's Loin," and the tallest of which is about 33 feet, and two feet in diameter. It is said that there is but one triangular pillar through out the whole Causeway, but three of nine sides, comparatively few of four or eight, while the proportion of ninety-nine in a hundred have either five, six, or seven sides. Nearly every combination or range of these columns has received its particular name among the guides. There are, for instance, the Giant's Gateway, the Giant's Chair, the Giant's Theatre, the Giant's Organ, the Giant's Well, the Chimney Top, the Giant's Fan, the King and his Nobles, &c. "Grace Staple's Cave" is a remarkable arrangement of columnar pillars as regular as if placed together by the hand of the most skilful mason. It is very similar to some of the famous caves of Staffa.

Port Coon Cave, of which we gave a Sketch last week, was once, according to the legend, the residence of a giant hermit, who made a vow that he would never eat food brought him by mortal hands, and was fed in his rocky retreat by seals, which were kind enough to bring him food in their mouths every day with the utmost punctuality. Boats may be rowed in the cave to a considerable distance, and a bugle sounded in it produces the most extraordinary and delicious echoes.

In the course of the examination of the Causeway, Mr. MacAdam delivered an address upon the geological features of the district; after which Mr. Phillips, the secretary of the Association, pointed out the resemblance of the rocks at the Causeway to those which are found in countries where there are existing volcanoes, and also mentioned the possibility that the trap formations might be portions of lava streams that had come down from a considerable distance. He gave a very ingenious explanation of the convex and concave extremities of the basaltic joints, and alluded to the experiments of Mr. Gregory Watt, in the fusion of masses of basalt, and their subsequent cooling, under pressure, which enabled him (Mr. Watt) to obtain results, which accounted for the formation of columns like those found at the Causeway.

Shortly after five o'clock the party embarked on their return to Belfast, where they arrived at about half-past twelve at night.

A PRINCIPAL HORTICULTURIST.—The splendid country palace, extensive gardens, and unique collection of plants of the various *exotic* tribe, belonging to his Royal Highness Prince Joseph of Salm, Herrschers by K., at Dyck, near Neuss, is as well known throughout the Rhenish provinces (of Prussia) as the Prince is himself well known to the learned, and especially to the botanical world. On the 4th instant the palace and vicinity were the scene of an annual festival. The whole neighbourhood assembled to celebrate the 79th birthday of this amiable, liberal in every sense of the word, and distinguished Prince, who, although so far advanced in years, is still full of mental and bodily vigour, and gives every promise of living to complete his valuable and richly-illustrated botanical work, the "Hortus Salmianus," which is already far advanced, and in print at Cologne.

MAJORITY OF THE EARL OF DALKEITH.—CELEBRATION AT SANQUHAR.

THURSDAY week, the 9th inst., being the day on which the heir to the Dukedom of Buccleuch attained his majority, the tenantry and population on the vast estates of that house celebrated the occasion with great festivity. Every hamlet, village, and town situated within the property of the Duke of Buccleuch joined in manifestations of public rejoicing. At Dalkeith, the principal seat of his Grace, about ninety gentlemen dined; and there were largely-attended dinners at Melrose, Selkirk, and Hawick. The ancient burgh of Sanquhar was also prominent in the festivities, for which funds were raised by the town Council.

Here it was a day of universal jubilee. A procession was formed, headed by the Provost, three Bailies, and Town Clerk abreast; succeeded four deep by the members of the Town Council; then a new flag unfurled waved beautifully in the breeze, representing a buck caught by the antlers in a thicket, with the words "In favour of the Earl of Dalkeith, the hopeful son of a worthy stock;" next, the members of the inhabitants' committee, the feuars and small tenants, the five incorporated trades; the carpet-weavers employed by the Sanquhar Carpet Company, all wearing aprons of their own manufacture, and preceded by a flag of the same; the general public, a second band of music, the Society of Oddfellows in their costume, and closed by the Society (old and young) of Teetotalers.

Provost Williamson having addressed the assembly, the command "march" was given, and the procession moved towards the town; the two bands striking up their liveliest air, and parading down the High-street to the old fort or castle, where they passed underneath the principal arch of the ruins which once formed the main entrance from the front approach; and within the precincts of this ancient stronghold, where Royalty has feasted and slept, and which has been taken and retaken more than once by powerful contending factions—within these now peaceful precincts, green with turf, and pastured by sheep, Mr. Orr, parochial schoolmaster, requested the assembly to unite with him in three lusty cheers for the Duke of Buccleuch; which were given with the utmost enthusiasm. On the south-most and loftiest summit of the old walls was elevated a long pole, to the top of which was attached a large crimson flag. Along the line of High-street, also, a number of beautiful flags were displayed. The procession then made a long *détour*, and beneath a succession of beautiful arches returned by the old road to Queensberry-square, where Mr. McQueen, Town Clerk, called for three cheers before parting, in honour of the younger members of the Buccleuch family—a call which was responded to with promptitude and earnestness. Upon the proposition of Bailie Kay, three cheers were given for our most gracious Queen. The Harmonic Society sang the Queen's Anthem, which was also played by the two bands.

The rejoicings in the evening consisted of two dinners, attended by 100 and by 50 gentlemen respectively; a ball, a splendid display of fireworks, and an illumination.

Sanquhar is an old historical town. It is situated in the very centre of the beautiful valley of the Nith, in Dumfriesshire. The first mention we have of it is in the middle of the ninth century (848). Its castle, now a ruin, was built by Edgar, the son of Dunegal, chieftain of Strathclyde, about six hundred years ago. Many a curious incident is connected with this feudal structure. It was one of the important strongholds in the time of Edward I., who, in 1296, had all the castles from Cathels to Ayr in his possession. It was rescued by William, the brave knight of Douglasdale, when the whole garrison was put to the sword. It came into the possession of Crighton, who married the heiress of Ross, of Blythill, in the immediate neighbourhood. King James VI., on his re-



OPENING OF THE MORAYSHIRE RAILWAY.—THE TERMINUS AT LOSSIEMOUTH.

turn to England, after a tour through Scotland, as Spotiswood, the historian, informs us, lodged in this castle on the last day of July, 1617, when great festivities were observed in its halls. This King erected the town into a royal burgh, which, from time immemorial, had been a burgh of barony. Thirteen years after this the barony of Sanquhar came into the possession of Douglas of Drumlanrig. The Marquis of Queensberry lived in the stronghold before he built the princely mansion of Drumlanrig. The edifice is now in ruins, but the crumbling walls exhibit the former strength of the structure. "Crichton Peel," as it is called, is still the pride of the inhabitants, who frequently convene there on occasion of any of their great festivals; and truly, a greater and finer assemblage was rarely ever held in the place than that which met there on the 9th inst.

OPENING OF THE MORAYSHIRE RAILWAY.

This new line of railway, which connects Elgin closely with the Moray Firth, was opened for passenger traffic with great ceremony, on the 10th ult., which was a grand gala day in Elgin and Lossiemouth, and through-

out the lower part of the county. At an early hour two bands of music, the Six Incorporated Trades, with their banners, the Directors of the Morayshire Railway, the magistrates and town-council, and a great number of the inhabitants walked in procession to the Railway Station, where a large triumphal arch had been erected. Among those who joined the Directors of the Railway in the procession and on the platform at the station, were Mr. Isaac Forsyth; Mr. James Grant, of London; Mr. Munro, of London; Mr. Warren, of London, &c. There were also a number of ladies on the platform, who took their seats by the first train.

The signal for starting having been given, the steam was applied, and off dashed the first regular passenger train on the Morayshire Railway, amid the huzzas of the assembled thousands. The time occupied between Elgin and Lossiemouth was fourteen minutes. The reception here mouth was cordial and enthusiastic; every house in Lossiemouth and Branderburgh had its banners waving, and from the mast of every boat and ship in the harbour colours were streaming. The south and east brow of the Coulart-hill was one mass of living beings; and, from the elevation, no less than from the bold appearance of the hill at this point, the effect was truly picturesque.

Captain Brunton, of the preventive service (with his men from Burghead and Lossiemouth, in full uniform), were stationed at the northern point of the old harbour, and as the first train drew up at the station-house, they fired a *feu de joie*. Some cannon, belonging to Colonel Brander, of Pitgaveny, placed on the brow of the hill, announced the arrival and departure of the first few trains. A grand triumphal arch was erected over the railway and near the station; and the station-house was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and surmounted with flags.

The accompanying illustration shows the Station at Lossiemouth, sketched from the old harbour.

As train after train arrived at Lossiemouth, the people scampered off, singly or in parties, as their taste dictated. A great point of attraction was the sands on the eastern side of the Lossie, where a series of games and races came off between twelve and four o'clock. The Directors of the Railway were received at the Lossiemouth Station by the Directors of the Stotfield Harbour Company, who invited them to partake of wine and cake with them at Branderburgh. On the top of the Coulart Hill, and almost overlooking the station, the Railway Company had a marquee erected, with seats for about 40 or 50; and between two and three



CELEBRATION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE EARL OF DALKEITH, AT SANQUHAR.

o'clock, the Directors, with a number of ladies and other friends there partook of an elegant *déjeuner*. Dr. Manson presided, and a number of toasts in connexion with the great event of the day were drunk.

We learn from the Company's statement that the average cost of this line of railway has been little more than £5000 per mile; and but for the opposition, the cost would not have been much above £4000. The average cost of English railways made up to this year, according to the *Times*, is £38,290; of Irish railways, £18,693; and of Scotch railways, £30,781 per mile. The average cost of all the lines in Great Britain and Ireland, is £35,448. The Morayshire is thus constructed at a little more than a seventh part of the average cost of all the railways made in this country up till this year.

The permanent way of the Morayshire is laid with the patent fish joints. The engines are light six-wheeled tank engines on Mr. Samuel's system, and from his design, and have been made by Messrs. Neilson and Co., of Glasgow. The carriages are built of teak wood, and are similar to those in use on the North Woolwich branch of the Eastern Counties Railway, and have been built by Messrs. Marshall and Co., of Birmingham.

The contractors were Messrs. Thomas Hutchings and Co.; the sub-contractor, Mr. Parker. The contractor's engineer was Mr. Simmons; the Company's engineer, Mr. Samuel, of London.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. SIMPSON.

It will be recollected that at the recent election for High Wycombe, Mr. Simpson, of Hammersmith, obtained a very large amount of sympathy



THE SIMPSON TESTIMONIAL.

from the working-classes of the borough, but failed in securing his return. In testimony, however, of Mr. Simpson's exertions, a fund was opened for presenting him with a silver vase, by the subscriptions of the non-electors; and, a sufficient sum being raised, the plate was pur-

chased, and presented, at a public demonstration, on August 9th, at High Wycombe, in an orchard lent for the occasion by the Mayor. The vase, which we have engraved, bears the following inscription:—

Presented to Wm. Simpson, Esq., of Bradmore House, Hammersmith, by the non-electors of High Wycombe, at a public meeting, held on August 9th, 1852, as a tribute of respect for his unflinching zeal and energy as a candidate for a seat in the present Parliament, and as the advocate of those great constitutional principles which are for the benefit of all classes, and which are so dear to the hearts of every Englishman.

THE DONCASTER RACE PLATE, 1852.

THE prize still conventionally known as "the Doncaster Cup," which was run for on Thursday last, consists of a spirited episode from the memorable Battle of Flodden, A.D. 1513, wherein John the sixth Lord Lumley is in fierce encounter with the Earls of Montrose and Crawford, both of whom were slain, with many other of the Scottish nobility. In the group, each figure is distinguished by the coronet, crest, and other heraldic devices proper to the noble personages; while the costume is that of the richly-decorated period of Henry VIII. On the base, in alto relievo, are panels showing a continuation of the battle from Sir W. Scott's "Marmion:—"

With that, straight up the hill there rode
Two horsemen drenched in gore,
And in their arms a helpless load,
A wounded knight, they bore.
His hand still strained the broken brand,
His arms were smeared with blood and sand;
Dragg'd from among the horses' feet,
With dinted shield and helmet beat,
The falcon crest and plumage gone—
Can this be haughty Marmion?—
Canto vi., v. 28.

On the reverse side are the names of the race and winner; and at either end, the names of the stewards.

We have only to add that Mr. Brown's clever group has been ably executed in silver by Messrs. Hunt and Roskill.



THE DONCASTER RACE-PLATE 1852—CONFLICT AT FLODDEN FIELD.

SEVRES AND OTHER PORCELAINS AT THE EXHIBITION OF ART MANUFACTURES.

WE this week engrave a view of the group of ornamental pottery which forms one of the most interesting features of the Exhibition of Art Manufactures now on view at Marlborough House, under the department of Practical Art. This collection has been made for the use of the students of the special class for instruction in the principles and actual practice of painting on porcelain, which is about to be opened under the superintendence of Mr. Simpson, a gentleman who has for some years been employed by the Queen to make copies of paintings in enamel, and who originally came from the Potteries. The principal feature in the group consists of some of the finest specimens of Sevres porcelain, which her Majesty has graciously allowed to be removed from Buckingham Palace to the museum, where they will remain for the instruction and guidance of students, until the return of the Court in the ensuing spring.

The specimens were originally brought to this country by George IV.,

who, it is said, spared no expense in order to obtain the finest works of ceramic art which had adorned the halls of Versailles prior to the first revolution. In the collection are to be seen several vases which at the present time would fetch at public sale above £1000 each. This, at first sight, may seem a large sum to give for such articles; but the price will seem less unreasonable when it is considered that in each of the specimens there will be found united the highest triumphs of chymistry, the most exquisite skill of the modeller, and the finest achievements of the painter. Following the example of her Majesty, Mr. T. Baring, M.P.; Mr. Minton, Mr. Webb, Mr. Farrar, and other collectors, have generously permitted the department to make selections from their cabinets; so that the student who desires to trace the excellence of past ages in the art of pottery has an opportunity now presented to him which has never before occurred. Although the French porcelain necessarily occupies the first place, there are also included in the present exhibition some noble examples of Dutch earthenware, obtained from the collection of M. De Huyvetter, of Ghent, which would be well entitled to form a part of any historical museum of manufactures.



SEVRES CHINA FROM THE MUSEUM OF ART MANUFACTURES, AT MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

"IN THE CLOUDS;"

OR,

SOME ACCOUNT OF A BALLOON TRIP WITH MR. GREEN.

BY HENRY MAYHEW.

I AM naturally a coward—constitutionally and habitually timid—I do not hesitate to confess it. The literary temperament and sedentary pursuits are, I believe, seldom associated with physical courage. Fear, or the ideal presence of prospective injury, is necessarily an act of the imagination; and the sense of danger, therefore, closely connected with a sense of the beautiful and the æsthetic faculties in general. Your human bull-dogs are mostly deficient in mental refinement, and perhaps if there be one class of characters more fanciless than the rest of the world, they are those who are said to belong to the "fancy." My creed is that all imaginative men are cowards; and that I am one I have at least moral courage and honesty enough to acknowledge.

Then why go up in a balloon?

Yes, why? These are times when men's principles of action are sure to be canvassed; so, to prevent the imputation of any false motives, I will make a clean breast of it, and confess that it was merely "idle curiosity," as the world calls it, that took me into the air.

I had seen the great metropolis under almost every aspect. I had dived into holes and corners hidden to the honest and well-to-do portion of the cockney community. I had visited Jacob's Island (the plague spot) in the height of the cholera, when, to inhale the very air of the place was almost to breathe the breath of death. I had sought out the haunts of beggars and thieves, and passed hours communing with them as to their histories, habits, natures, and impulses. I had seen the world of London below the surface, as it were, and I had a craving to contemplate it far above it—to behold the immense mass of vice and avarice and cunning, of noble aspirations and humble heroism, blent into one black spot; to take, as it were, an angel's view of that huge city where, perhaps, there is more virtue and more iniquity, more wealth and more want huddled together in one vast heap than in any other part of the earth; to look down upon the strange, incongruous clump of palaces and workhouses, of factory chimneys and church steeples, of banks and prisons, of docks

and hospitals, of parks and squares, of courts and alleys—to look down upon these as the birds of the air look down upon them, and see the whole dwindle into a heap of rubbish on the green sward, a human ant-hill, as it were; to hear the hubbub of the restless sea of life below, and hear it like the ocean in a shell, whispering to you of the incessant strugglings and chafings of the distant tide—to swing in the air far above all the petty jealousies and heart-burnings, and small ambitions and vain parades, and feel for once tranquil as a babe in a cot—that you were hardly of the earth earthly; and to find, as you drank in the pure thin air above you, the blood dancing and tingling joyously through your veins, and your whole spirit becoming etherealised as, Jacob-like, you mounted the aerial ladder, and beheld the world beneath you fade and fade from your sight like a mirage in the desert; to feel yourself really, as you had ideally in your dreams, floating through the endless realms of space, sailing among the stars free as "the lark at heaven's gate," and to enjoy for a brief half-hour at least a foretaste of that elysian destiny which is the hope of all. To see, to think, and to feel thus was surely worth some little risk, and this it was that led me to peril my bones in the career of a balloon.

It is true that the aerial bulls and ponies of late had taken nearly all poetry from the skies, reducing the ancient myths to the mere stage trickeries of an ethereal Astley's; true that the depraved rage for excitement—that species of mental dram-drinking which ever demands some brutal stimulant—had given a most vulgar, prosaic character to a voyage which, when stripped of its peril, was perhaps one of the purest and most dignified delights that the mind was capable of enjoying; still, quickened with a love of my own art, and heedless of any silly imputations of rivalry with quadrupeds and mountebanks, I gladly availed myself of a seat in the car which Mr. Green had set aside for me.

At about a quarter to seven o'clock, six of us and the "veteran aéronaut" took our places in the large deep wicker buck-basket of a car attached to the Royal Nassau Balloon, while two gentlemen were seated immediately above our heads, with their backs resting against the netting and their legs stretched across the hoop to which the cords of the net-work are fastened, and from which depends the car. There were altogether nine of us—a complete set of human pins for the air to play at skittles with—and the majority, myself above the number, no sylphs in weight. Above us reeled the great gas-bag like a monster

peg-top, and all around the car were groups of men holding to the sides of the basket, while the huge iron weights were handed out and replaced by large squabby bags of sand.

In the course of about ten minutes all the arrangements for starting were complete; the grapnel, looking like a bundle of large iron fish-hooks, welded together, was hanging over the side of the car. The guide-rope, longer than St. Paul's is high, and done up in a canvas bag, with only the end hanging out, was dangling beside the grapnel, and we were raised some fifty feet in the air to try the ascensive power of the machine that was to bear us through the clouds. Then, having been duly dragged down, the signal was at length given to fire the cannons, and Mr. Green loosening the only rope that bound us to the Gardens, we shot into the air—or rather the earth seemed to sink suddenly down, as if the spot of ground, with all the spectators on it, and on which we ourselves had been lately standing, had been constructed on the same principle as the Adelphi stage, and admitted of being lowered at a moment's notice. The last thing that I remember to have seen distinctly was the flash of the guns, and instantaneously there appeared a multitude of upturned faces in the Gardens below, the greater part with their mouths wide open, and a *cheveux de frise* of hands extended above them, all signalling farewell to us. Then, as we swept rapidly above the trees, I could see the roadway immediately outside the Gardens, stuck all over with rows of tiny people, looking like so many black pins on a cushion, and the hubbub of the voices below was like the sound of a distant school let loose.

And here began that peculiar panoramic effect which is the distinguishing feature of a view from a balloon, and which arises from the utter absence of all sense of motion in the machine itself. The earth appeared literally to consist of a long series of scenes, which were being continually drawn along under you, as if it were a diorama beheld flat upon the ground, and gave you almost the notion that the world was an endless landscape stretched upon rollers, which some invisible sprites were revolving for your especial enjoyment.

Then, as we struck towards the fields of Surrey, and I looked over the edge of the car in which I was standing, holding on tight to the thick rope descending from the hoop above, and with the rim of the wicker work reaching up to my breast, the sight was the most exquisite delight I ever experienced. The houses below looked like the tiny wooden things out of



DESCENT OF MR. GREEN'S BALLOON, ON PIRBRIGHT COMMON, NEAR GUILDFORD.

a child's box of toys, and the streets like mts. To peer straight down gave you an awful sense of the height to which the balloon had already risen, and yet there was no idea of danger, for the mind was too much occupied with the grandeur and novelty of the scene all around to feel the least alarm. As the balloon kept on ascending, the lines of buildings grew smaller and smaller, till in a few minutes the projections seemed very much like the prominences on the little coloured plaster models of countries. Then we could see the gas lights along the different lines of road start into light one after another all over the earth, and presently the ground seemed to be covered with little miniature illumination lamps, such as may be seen resting on the grass at the edge of the gravel walks in suburban gardens of amusement. The river we could see winding far away, undulating, as it streamed along, like a man-of-war's pennant, and glittering here and there in the dusk like grey steel. All round the horizon were thick slate-coloured clouds, edged with the orange of the departed sun; and with the tops of these we seemed to be on a level. So deep was the dusk in the distance, that it was difficult to tell where the earth ended and the sky began; and in trying to make out the objects afar off, it seemed to be as if you were looking through so much crape. The roads below were now like narrow light-brown ribbons, and the bridges across the Thames almost like planks; while the tiny black barges, as they floated up the river, appeared no bigger than insects. The large green fields had dwindled down to about the size of kettle-holders, and the hedges were like strips of chenille.

When we were about a mile above the ground some of us threw pieces of paper into the grey air, and that, as we rose and left them below, fluttered about like butterflies as they fell. Then some of the more noisy of the crew struck a song; while I heard a dyspeptic gentleman immediately behind me, as I was kneeling down (for there was but one seat), and stretching my head over the side of the car, contemplating the world of wonder below, confess to feeling a little nervous, saying that he was a man of natural moral courage, but his body overcame it as he was subject to fits of indigestion and as a preventive to extreme nervousness had taken nothing but vegetables for dinner that day. And I must confess myself that, poised up high in the air, as we were, with but a few slender cords to support us, I could not help thinking of the awful havoc there would be if the twigs of the wicker car were to break and the bottom to give way.

On what sharp church steeple thought I should I be spitted, and as I looked down the beauty of the scene once more took all sense of fear from my mind, for the earth now appeared concave with the height, and seemed like a huge black bowl—as if it were the sky of the nether regions. The lights of the villages scattered over the scene, were like clusters of glow-worms, from the midst of which you could here and there distinguish the crimson speck of some railway lamp.

"There, I've thrown over a letter, directed to my house," said one of the passengers, "telling 'em we're all safe up here"—and as I stretched over the car I saw the little white fluttering thing go zigzagging down the air, while we still mounted the sky.

Then some of the passengers, who had supplied themselves with an extraordinary stock of courage previous to starting, by means of sundry bottles of "sparkling champagne," which had the effect of making them more noisy than agreeable in such a situation, must needs begin quarrelling with an "elegant" Captain in the hoop, as to whether they belonged to the Snobocracy or the Nobocracy, and at one time their words were literally so high that could the pair have got to close quarters the dispute would certainly have assumed a more serious character, for jammed tight together as we were in the car, the least attempt at violence would certainly have ended in discharging the whole human cargo into the railway station below. But as it was, it certainly did appear most ludicrous that two rational beings must choose that place of all others for engaging in some paltry squabble as to the vulgar division of the human family into "Nobs" and "Snobs."

Silence, however, was soon restored by Mr. Green reminding the disputants that we were descending at a rapid rate, and it was time they began to look out for their safety.

The dyspeptic passenger, who during the dispute had evidently been suffering from another attack of nervousness, was at length terrified beyond human endurance by the gentleman who was rather the worse for champagne indulging in even warmer language than he had yet given vent to.

"For mercy sake don't swear up here, my good man," shivered out the poor invalid. "Wait till you get down below, if you must swear. We are always in the hands of Providence; but up here, it strikes me, that our lives are literally hanging by a thread."

The collapsing of the bottom part of the balloon to which Mr. Green here drew our attention as evidence of the rate at which we were descending, soon restored order, and made every one anxious to attend to the directions of the aéronaut. We could now hear the sounds of "Ah bal-loon" again rising from the ground and following in our wake, telling us that at the small villages on our way the people were anxiously looking for our descent. A bag of ballast was entrusted to one of the passengers to let fall at a given signal, while Green himself stood with the grapnel ready to loose immediately he came to a fitting spot. Presently the signal for the descent of the ballast was given, and as it dropped it was curious to watch it fall; the earth had seemed almost at our feet as the car swept over the fields, but so long was the heavy bag in getting to the ground that, as the eye watched it fall and fall, the mind was filled with amazement at the height the balloon still was in the air. Suddenly the sound as of a gun announced that the bag had struck the soil, and then we were told all to sit low down in the car and hold fast, and scarcely had we

obeyed the orders given than the car was suddenly fiercely jerked half round, and all within it thrown one on top of another; immediately after this bump went the bottom of the car on the ground giving us so violent a shake that it seemed as if every limb in the body had been simultaneously dislocated. Now the balloon pitched on to its side, and lay on the ground struggling with the wind, and rolling about, heaving like a huge whale in the agonies of death.

"For heaven's sake! hold fast," shouted Mr. Green, as we were dashed up and down in the car, all rolling one on the other, with each fresh lurch of the giant machine stretched on the ground before us, and from which we could hear the gas roaring from the valve, like the blast to a furnace.

"Sit still, all of you, I say!" roared our pilot, as he saw some one endeavouring to leave the car.

Again we were pitched right on end, and the bottom of the car shifted into a ditch, the water of which bubbled up through the wicker work of the car, and I, unlucky wight, who was seated in that part to which the cushions were mostly confined, soon began to feel that I was quietly sitting in a pool of water.

To move, however, was evidently to peril not only one's own life, but that of all the other passengers, and still no one came to us, for we had fallen in a swamp, which we afterwards found out was Pirbright-common, situate some half-dozen miles from Guildford.

Presently, however, to our great delight, some hundred drab-smocked countrymen appeared, almost as if by magic, around the edges of the car; for some little time they were afraid to touch, but at last they got a firm hold of it, and we were one after another extricated from our seats.

To tell the remainder of the adventure would be tame and dull: suffice it, after some two hours' labour, the aerial machine, car, grapnels, and all, was rolled and packed up in a cart, and thus transported, an hour after midnight, to Guildford; the voyagers journeying to the same town in a tilted cart, delighted with their trip, and listening to the many curious adventures of the veteran aéronaut who had successfully piloted them and some hundred others through the air; and who, now that the responsibility of our lives rested no longer in his hands, seemed a thoroughly different man: before he was taciturn, and almost irritable when spoken to; and now he was garrulous, and delighting us with his intelligence, his enterprise, his enthusiasm, and his courtesy. Indeed, long shall we all remember the pleasant night we passed with the old ethereal pilot on his 500th ascent with the Royal Nassau Balloon.